

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Holberg and others

Subject: Prohibiting public school employees from using public resources for advocacy

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Overview

Proposes to require school boards to adopt and implement a policy that: prohibits school employees from using district funds and resources to elect or defeat a political candidate or pass or defeat a political question or pending legislation; and permits school employees to disseminate factual information about a political candidate or question, consistent with the employee's employment-related duties. Requires school boards to provide voters with timely factual information about a pending ballot question, including funding information when the ballot question proposes a referendum.

Section

1 Prohibiting school employees from using public resources for advocacy; endorsing timely and current factual information. (a) Requires school boards to adopt and implement a district policy prohibiting employees from using district funds or other district resources to advocate for electing or defeating a political candidate or passing or defeating a ballot question or pending legislation. Requires the policy to apply when the employee performs employment-related duties, including when the employee represents the district in an official capacity. States that the policy must not apply when an employee disseminates factual information about a political candidate or question or presents alternatives to a political question, consistent with the employee's employment-related duties.

(b) Requires school boards to provide the district electorate with timely factual information

Section

about a pending ballot question.

Makes this section effective January 1, 2006.