

Concise Explanation of HB 70

Below is a brief summary that outlines the components of the bill.

When will a district be assigned an Academic Distress Commission?

Any school district that has received an overall grade of "F" on the state report card for three consecutive years. In years when there is not an overall grade, such as this year, the equivalent to the overall "F" grade is a combination of an "F" for performance index **and** an "F" or "D" for Value Added. This goes by district, not by school.

PROBLEMS

- o Privatization and charterization (lines 913, 1039, and 1067)
- o Concentrated Authority (line 871 and throughout documents)
- Loss of collective bargaining (several references in document)
- o Academic Performance Bonus (line 1176)
- o Possible Mayoral Control (line 1243)

OPPORTUNITIES

Though this bill is horrible, there are cracks within it that allow for opportunities for our students. We need to do everything we can to push the reform efforts in these areas and keep the students within the traditional public schools by addressing the needs of both the students and the community

- Community Learning Centers (starting on line 1394. This section is original bill)
- Stakeholder Involvement (line 927)
- o Innovative education programs (line 1021)
- o Ability to transition out of academic distress (line 1186)
- o Improvement Coordinator (line 517)

NEXT STEPS

- We are looking for possible amendments to be submitted particularly around privatization and charterization.
- COPE drives excellent opportunity to raise money to elect new legislators.
- Enlist local activists to meet with legislators in your area about education issues.
- Work with Youngstown community to build support around Community Learning Center model.
- All locals could start engaging communities around supporting public education and looking for ways to bring community resources into the schools.
- Educate members about privatization agenda and attacks on public education.