



Chairman Phil Mendelson

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A BILL

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend, on a temporary basis, the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000 to establish a school support office within the Office of the State Superintendent of Education to focus academic improvement in the lowest performing schools.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this act may be cited as the “School Improvement Temporary Amendment Act of 2024”.

Sec. 2. Section 3 of the State Education Office Establishment Act of 2000, effective October 21, 2000 (D.C. Law 13-176; D.C Official Code § 38-2602), is amended by adding a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

“(d)(1) OSSE shall establish a School Support Office (“Office”) to implement and administer a school support Program (“Program”) beginning in School Year 2025-2026. The Program shall provide support and resources for continuous academic improvement to DCPS schools and District public charter schools whose academic performance is, at minimum, the lowest 5% of all public schools in the District.

“(2) It shall be the goal of the Program to substantially improve academic outcomes within 5 years of a school entering the Program. Subject to appropriations, the Office

35 shall provide local funding, in addition to any Formula or federal funding already available to
36 low performing schools, to qualifying schools that participate in the Program.

37 “(3) No later than September 30, 2024, OSSE shall submit a report to the Mayor
38 and the Council, developed in consultation with the State Board of Education, DCPS, the District
39 of Columbia Public Charter School Board, and other stakeholders, which shall:

40 “(A) Compare and assess school improvement best practices from other
41 jurisdictions;

42 “(B) Identify and explain the metrics that will be used to determine the
43 schools whose academic performance is, at minimum, the lowest 5% of all public schools in the
44 District.

45 “(C) Propose evidence-based strategies for continuous school
46 improvement models for the lowest performing 5% of District public schools, including:

47 (i) The processes and frameworks for implementing the models;

48 (ii) How each strategy or model will address professional
49 development for educators, direct coaching, and leadership focused on addressing instructional
50 practice; and

51 (iii) How utilization of the models and Office funding will align
52 with PCSB and DCPS accountability metrics and frameworks;

53 “(D) Provide recommendations for how the Office will work
54 collaboratively with qualifying schools and school stakeholders to select and implement
55 evidence-based strategies to significantly increase proficiency and growth in reading and math
56 through proven methods and improve other school designation metrics;

57 “(E) Provide recommendations on how the Office may strengthen a
58 designated school’s finances, financial management, policies, and culture;

59 “(F) Describe how a participating school’s improvement will be evaluated,
60 including the criteria for exiting the Program;

61 “(G) Explain how the Program will adjust to address a school that has not
62 demonstrated sufficient improvement to exit the program after 5 years;

63 “(H) Explain the funding and resources needed to successfully establish
64 and operate the Office and implement the Program for participating schools;

65 “(I) Set forth what additional authority OSSE will need, if any, to
66 implement the report’s recommendations and establish the Office and Program; and

67 “(J) Discuss any additional items relevant to the needs of the Office or
68 Program.

69 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

70 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal
71 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
72 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

73 Sec. 4. Effective date.

74 (a) This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by
75 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review
76 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
77 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
78 Columbia Register.

79 (b) This act shall expire after 225 days of its having taken effect.