

Dear Chairman and committee members,

We oppose the changing of Senate Bill 2158 to allow a dissolved school district to distribute funds to a political subdivision. The amount stated as not to exceed \$500,000 is an exorbitant amount of money. These funds were received from taxpayers and state funds that were collected in good faith for the betterment of the education of our youth. Paragraph a indicates that after required amounts are put aside for required expenditures, the unobligated funds are credit to real property owners in the form of a tax credit or refund and believe it should remain this way. Why is this amendment being reviewed now. If this was not a legal option at the time of dissolution, is it of good legal issue to make this change after a school has chosen to close!

A change of this magnitude is setting a precedence, not only on the school dissolution level but also with any taxpayer and state collected funds (taxes). The funds need to be applied as stated as a refund or distributed to the school districts in which the students were distributed to. With the increasing costs of operating a school system and the difficulty of hiring and retaining teachers, wouldn't the money be more beneficial to the education of the children to be distributed to the surrounding school districts the children are attending?

The amendment to the house bill does not specify how a political subdivision will account for these funds. Is a special account required for the separation of regular city business activities versus the school/community center business? The amendment is too vague and as the amendment is written if the City decides to repave main street using these funds they could.

Yes, keeping the school viable is a heartfelt thought, however, sustainability is in question. The Edmore School district consists of 6 different communities. If the amendment is passed, shouldn't ALL Communities that have paid their taxes and supported the Edmore school benefit, NOT just ONE community.

Thank you for your time and consideration for what I have written.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dale & Geraldine Pesek