



***PARSS Legislative Update  
Friday, October 20, 2023***

***A Quick Review and Status of Legislative Action***

The divided legislature is still seeking a compromise that would allow it to authorize up to \$1.1 billion in additional spending via code bills.

1). In late August, the Senate passed a 103-page **fiscal code bill (HB 1300)** that would reauthorize some routine programs while excluding Democratic priorities.

- The bill also authorizes \$100 million appropriated for a school mental health grant program.
- House Democrats amended the Senate proposal to authorize several caucus proposals.
- Senate Majority Leader Pittman has not said if he would bring the bill up for a vote, or further amend the bill.

2). House Democrats have also advanced an original **tax code bill (HB 1219)**. The legislation includes proposals championed by Republicans and business groups, but it also contains top Democratic priorities.

- Senate Majority Leader Pittman called the tax bill “intriguing” and a “step in the right direction”. He did not say if he would bring the bill up for a vote.

3). House Democrats took a **school code (HB 27)** proposal from the Senate and expanded it with several priorities.

- o Senate Republicans passed HB 27 to extend Act 91 provisions, and authorize \$100 million appropriated for a school mental health grant program as well as funding for physical school safety grants.
- o House Democrats amended that bill, adding in caucus proposals (Level Up, a school environmental repair grant program, a student teacher stipend program, etc.).
- o Senate Majority Leader Pittman has not said if he would bring the bill up for a vote, or further amend the bill.

We will keep you apprised should further legislative action occur.