



SPONSOR: Sen. Katz
Sens. Peterson & Bunting; Reps. Hudson, Manolakos,
Mitchell, Miro & Ramone

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
146th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER AND EVALUATE OPTIONS TO DECREASE THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN DELAWARE TO NOT MORE THAN FIVE DISTRICTS AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE SAME.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Delaware is undergoing the largest budget challenges in recent history; and

2 WHEREAS, decreasing the number of public school districts in Delaware from nineteen districts to not more than
3 five districts offers the potential to improve school operating and administrative efficiencies and decrease administrative
4 costs;

5 NOW THEREFORE:

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the 146th General Assembly of the State of
7 Delaware, with the approval of the Governor, that a Task Force shall be created to consider and evaluate the administration
8 and operation of public school districts for the stated purpose of making recommendations on how best to decrease the
9 number of public school districts from nineteen to not more than five.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall focus on the following:

- 11 a. An analysis and review of the factors, including costs and savings to meet the Task Force's directive to make
12 recommendations to decrease the number of public school districts from nineteen to not more than five.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall be comprised of the following members:

- 14 1. Two (2) representatives of the Department of Public Education, to be appointed by the Secretary thereof;
15 2. Two (2) members of the public, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House;
16 3. Two (2) members of the public, to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;
17 4. Three (3) members of the public to be appointed by the Governor.

18 The Task Force members shall not include any employee of a public school district.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall elect a chairperson from the above-listed members at its
20 first official meeting.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that public school districts should avoid entering into any new personnel contracts
22 for staff or administrators, or transportation, that bind the existing districts past June 30, 2014.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall provide a written report of its recommendations to the
24 Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate no later than June 1, 2012.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Task Force shall be implemented no later than
26 July 1, 2014.

SYNOPSIS

This resolution would create a Task Force for the purpose of making recommendations on how best to decrease the numbers of public school districts to not more than five.

Author: Senator Katz