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SUMMARY ACCREDITATION

House Bill 5029

Sponsor: Rep. William R. Bryant, Jr.

Committee: Education

Complete to 9-22-95

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5029 AS INTRODUCED 9-12-95

Public Act 335 of 1993 (House Bill 5121) amended the School Code in a number of ways, including changes to the process by which the state grants accreditation to public schools. The act required the Department of Education to develop standards for determining when a school qualified for summary accreditation without a full building-level evaluation. House Bill 5029 would amend the accreditation section of the code to provide that a school would have to be considered accredited without a full building-level evaluation, whether or not it met the department's standards, if it met one or both of two specified criteria. The criteria would be:

- a) the public school meets the accreditation standards of a regional accrediting body, if those standards had been approved by the State Board of Education and determined by the board to be results-oriented and reasonable; and
- b) the MEAP test scores of the school's students over the immediately preceding three years improved at a rate that put the school in the top 50 percent of all public schools in the rate of improvement, measured using the number of students achieving at least 75 percent of the objectives on the tests.

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