

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill No: HB 719**

**49th Legislature, 1st Session, 2009**

**Short Title: School District GO Bond State Requirements**

**Sponsor(s): Representative Thomas A. García and Others**

**Analyst: Peter B. van Moorsel**

**Date: February 24, 2009**

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**Bill Summary:**

HB 719 makes technical changes to current statute regarding notification of proposed school district general obligation (GO) bonds regarding the finances of counties, municipalities, and school districts. The bill assigns to the Public Education Department (PED) certain powers and duties of the now-abolished Office of Education of the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA).

Among its provisions, HB 719:

- requires a school district, when considering a bond issue, to forward a written notice of the proposal to PED;
- requires PED, upon receiving this notice, to furnish the district with all necessary information regarding the valuation, present outstanding bonded indebtedness, limitations as to tax rates and debt contracting power, and other information that may be useful to the district and its voters in considering the proposal to issue bonds; and
- requires the district, upon the adoption of a bond issue, to provide transcripts of proceedings regarding the bond issue to PED and to the officer approving the bond issue as to its legality, and to keep one copy of the transcript in the district's files.

**Fiscal Impact:**

HB 719 contains no appropriation.

PED reports that the provisions of HB 719 will have no fiscal impact.

**Issues:**

DFA reports that the provisions of HB 719 are clean-up language intended to remove references to the "Public School Finance Division of DFA," which no longer exists. According to DFA, the DFA Office of Education was abolished, and all powers and duties provided by law for this office were transferred to the State Department of Education (now PED) in 1988.<sup>1</sup>

DFA adds that the School Budget and Finance Analysis Bureau at PED already performs the duties concerning proposed school district GO bonds required in HB 719.

**Related Bill:**

HB 464a *School Capital Outlay Administrative Limits*

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<sup>1</sup> Laws of 1988, Ch. 64, Sec. 14