



### **Budget bill update**

After accepting a 1,018-page amendment with many education changes, the House Finance Committee moments ago passed House Bill 96 - the biennial budget bill. The full House will vote on the budget bill tomorrow, sending it to the Senate where hearings on the bill have already begun.

A copy of a budget summary prepared by the House Republican Caucus is [accessible here](#). A copy of the omnibus amendment is [accessible here](#). A summary of the school-related changes will be provided soon.

### **Update on cash balance provision**

The House increased - from 25% to 30% - the threshold that triggers a millage rate reduction for school districts with a cash balance exceeding that threshold. Other changes to this provision and the related policy include:

- clarifying that the reduction applies only one year at a time;
- requiring tax bills to include the following notice: “*Notice: The school district taxes shown due on this bill are reduced only for the current year due to the school district's excess carry-over balance.*”
- establishing a three-year forecast, rather than a five-year forecast;
- requiring, rather than using five-year forecast data, the county budget commission (CBC) to consider an earlier set of data, which must be submitted by July 15;

- requiring the CBC to consider rate reductions by August 15, rather than December 15 under the prior version of the bill;
  - creating a special timeline for making FY 2025 reviews and tax year 2025 rate adjustments by requiring the CBC to convene and make its review and adjustments by October 31, 2025;
  - clarifying that the CBC can reduce current expense levy rates below a total collections threshold of 20 mills; and
    - replacing the county prosecutor with the president of the county commissioners.
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