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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

**WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS**

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Education (SC-Ed)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

* Contents organized for archiving by: Gigi Godwin (LRB) (August/2011)

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Education

Senate Bill 379

Relating to: notification of school closings and reopenings.

By Senators Taylor and Hansen; cosponsored by Representatives Bernard Schaber and Berceau.

November 03, 2009 Referred to Committee on Education.

March 25, 2010 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (7) Senators Lehman, Jauch, Erpenbach, Hansen, Olsen, Grothman and Hopper.

Absent: (0) None.

Appearances For

- Eric Peterson, Madison — on behalf of Senator Lena Taylor

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- Lena Taylor, Milwaukee — Sen., 4th Senate District
- Jennifer Kammerud, Madison — Department of Public Instruction

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

March 31, 2010 **EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD**

Present: (7) Senators Lehman, Jauch, Erpenbach, Hansen, Olsen, Grothman and Hopper.

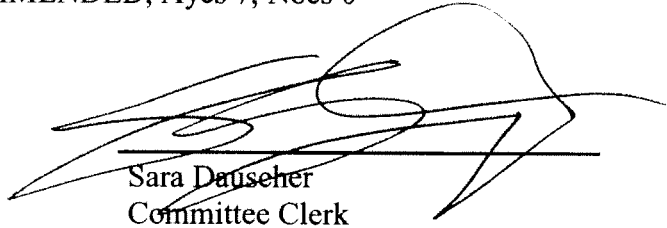
Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Hansen, seconded by Senator Olsen that **Senate Bill 379** be recommended for passage.

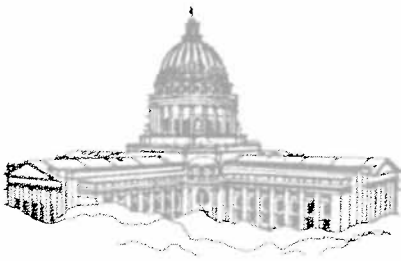
Ayes: (7) Senators Lehman, Jauch, Erpenbach, Hansen, Olsen, Grothman and Hopper.

Noes: (0) None.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 7, Noes 0



Sara Dauseher
Committee Clerk



LENA C. TAYLOR

Wisconsin State Senator • 4th District

HERE TO SERVE YOU!

Testimony of Senator Lena C Taylor SB 379 – Notice of School Closings and Reopenings Senate Committee on Education March 25, 2010

Honorable Chairman Lehman and members of the committee:

Thank you for taking testimony today on SB 379 relating to notification of school closing and reopenings. I am pleased to author this bill along with Rep. Penny Bernard-Schraber of Appleton.

Currently, the law allows a local district superintendent to close a school for inclement weather or because of a threat to the health or public safety of the students. Local health officers and the Department of Health Services (DHS) may also close a school to control epidemics or outbreaks. However, this closing is not required to be reported to the Department of Public Instruction.

This bill requires a school board to notify DPI of the closing of the school within 24 hours and for what reason and also requires notification that the school has reopened along with the number of days the school was closed. These notifications only apply to closures related to health or safety concerns, not for weather related closings.

The H1N1 pandemic we experienced is the reason this bill was offered. We need to give the Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Health Services information so they can work collaboratively with the Center for Disease Control in light of such situations. The Department of Public Instruction must be able to communicate accurate, up to date information to the Center for Disease Control throughout the school year.

I urge the committee's support of the bill. Thank you.