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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **SB 485**

#### ***AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO INTERDISTRICT MAGNET SCHOOLS OPERATED BY THE CAPITOL REGION EDUCATION COUNCIL.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes \$20 million in general obligation bonds for the State Department of Education to provide grants to the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) for interdistrict magnet school capital improvements. It also requires CREC to develop and maintain capital improvement and capital equipment plans.

Under the bill, “capital improvements” are those that fix a defect or design flaw; create an addition, enlargement, or expansion; increase capacity, productivity, or efficiency; rebuild property after its economic useful life ends; replace a major component or structural part of the property; or adapt the property to a new or different use. The bonds are subject to standard statutory bond issuance procedures and repayment requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

#### **CREC CAPITAL PLANS**

The bill requires CREC’s board to maintain a rolling three-year capital improvement and capital equipment plan and annually submit it to the Appropriations; Education; and Finance, Revenue and Bonding committees, starting by January 1, 2023. The plan must identify each interdistrict magnet school’s (1) expected capital improvement projects and the anticipated costs and (2) specific equipment needs, based on the equipment’s estimated cost, the useful life of existing equipment, and projections of changing technology.

The bill also requires the CREC board to adopt and periodically update a long-range plan with capital improvement priorities and goals

for the magnet schools and submit it to the Appropriations; Education; and Finance, Revenue and Bonding committees. The initial plan is due January 1, 2023, with updates due every five years afterward. Each plan after the initial plan must have a summary of capital improvement-related activities from the previous five years.

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Related Bill***

sSB 429, favorably reported by the Education and Finance, Revenue and Bonding committees, similarly requires CREC to develop capital plans.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 45 Nay 4 (04/05/2022)