

A portrait of Representative Mary Bentley, a woman with dark hair, wearing a dark blue top and a pearl necklace, smiling.

NEWSLETTER FROM REP. Mary Bentley DISTRICT 54

March 17, 2021

DAILY SUMMARY FOR MARCH 17, 2021

On Wednesday, the House voted to raise teacher salaries and increase public school funding.

HB1614 seeks to raise the average salary of public school teachers by the Teacher Salary Equalization Fund. For the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years, the statewide target average annual salary will be \$51,822. The current average is \$49,822.

HB1677 raises the foundation funding amount for the 2021-2022 school year from the current \$6,899 per student to \$7,182 per student. It raises the amount for the 2022-2023 school year to \$7,349 per student. The bill also includes enhanced funding for school districts in which 90% or more of the school's enrolled students qualify for the national school lunch program.

The House also voted in favor of HB1572. This bill states that a chemical abortion shall not be performed or induced without the voluntary and informed consent of the pregnant woman seeking the abortion. It also states that at least 72 hours before abortion is to be performed, the healthcare provider must provide the patient with a list of risks and complications and information on reversing the effects of the chemical abortion if the woman changes her mind.

Members voted in favor of HB1246 which allows pharmacists to treat certain health conditions.

The House will convene on Thursday at 1 pm.