

Miyagi Prefectural Assembly News

The 365th Miyagi Prefectural Assembly (September 2018 Regular Session)

1. Session

September 18, 2018 (Tue.) to October 18, 2018 (Thu.), 31 days

2. Outline

The 365th Miyagi Prefectural Assembly (September regular session) was held over a period of 31 days from September 18 to October 18, 2018. A total of 50 bills were approved, including the supplementary budget bill to increase the FY 2018 general account budget allocation of 5.187 billion JPY.

The representative and general inquiries included a productive discussion about support for disaster victims, the conveying of people's experiences of the disaster, tourism promotion, improvements to school education environments and support for child rearing.

3. Bills Voted On

(1) Resolutions: 1

"Resolution to request that the International Linear Collider is brought to the region"

(2) Proposals: 7

"Proposal to reinforce subsidization of private schools"

"Proposal related to promoting the installation of air conditioning in schools"

"Proposal requesting further strengthening of countermeasures to prevent child abuse"

(3) Bills Submitted by the Governor: 44

FY 2018 Miyagi Prefecture General Account Supplementary Budget

Authorization of settlement of FY 2017 Miyagi Prefecture General Account and Special Account Budget, etc.

(4) Petitions: 6

"Petition to submit a proposal regarding private school subsidization to the national government and Diet" (approved)

4. Summary of Representative and General Inquiries Made During the Assembly

(1) Regarding the placement of staff to support home life in disaster public housing

Disaster-affected city and town governments will decide on the matter. The cost will be covered by funds from the Disaster Victim Comprehensive Support Subsidy. The prefecture will continue to request funding from the national government for cities and towns where staff are placed.

In regard to countermeasures preventing solitary deaths, municipalities are monitoring vulnerable residents in cooperation with private enterprises, as well as making improvements to emergency alert systems and everyday-life support such as food distribution services. The prefecture will cooperate with municipalities to create a region where individuals support one another.

(2) Regarding Miyagi Olle

To attract visitors, Miyagi Prefecture Tourism Federation became a management committee member of the Asia Trails Network and is advancing its cooperation with 29 organizations in 13 countries. We will also be developing our cooperation with the World Trails Conference, made up of trail groups in 5 different continents. In addition, we will strengthen our cooperation with Kyushu Olle.

(3) Regarding the installation of air conditioning in prefectural high schools and prefectural special needs schools

The cost of installation in prefectural high school classrooms is approximately 5.6 billion yen. The maintenance and management costs per year will be above 2 hundred million yen. Large budgets will be required which poses a financial problem. With regard to classrooms in special needs schools, the prefecture would like to install the air conditioning as quickly as possible whilst observing the national subsidy.

(4) Regarding countermeasures against the issue of child abuse

Making an environment where children are raised in good health is an important duty of the prefectural government. In April, police officers were sent to serve as staff of Children's Consultation Centers for the first time. In July, an agreement was made between Miyagi Prefecture, Sendai City and Miyagi Prefectural Police relating to the provision of information. They will be working in close cooperation to prevent child abuse and ensure the safety of children.

(5) Regarding the "Reconstruction Forum" that will be held to review the events of the earthquake and reconstruction efforts

The biannual World Bosai Forum will be held in November next year in Sendai city. It will be held in cooperation with Tohoku University, creating valuable opportunities for exchange, providing information about disaster affected areas and reviewing the events of the earthquake and reconstruction efforts.

5. Activities of the Prefectural Assembly in Relation to Restoration and Reconstruction Efforts

On August 23, we requested earthquake disaster recovery and reconstruction countermeasures from the Minister of Reconstruction, YOSHINO Masayoshi, and Diet members related to Miyagi Prefecture. The day before, we visited Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, Inc. Fukushima Revitalization Headquarters and submitted an official request for a quick and sufficient response to deal with damage caused by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster as well as swift and complete settlement for the nuclear incident. On October 2, a written response to this request was received from the company. We firmly requested that the company would continue to follow through and accept responsibility hereafter.