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H.B. 125
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Hall and Creech

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SUMMARY

- Requires school districts to grant excused absences to students for participation in scheduled 4-H and FFA activities or programs.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

4-H and FFA excused absences

The bill requires school districts to grant excused absences for participation in scheduled 4-H and FFA activities or programs to students in grades K-12 and to allow those students to make up any school work missed as a result of that absence. To qualify as an excused absence, a 4-H or FFA educator must submit written documentation to the school principal or attendance officer as proof of student participation in a 4-H or FFA activity or program.

The bill, however, prohibits a school principal or a designee from granting an excused absence for participation in 4-H or FFA activities during either a scheduled administration of state assessments or any period of time for which the student has been disciplined by or suspended or expelled from school, if the terms of that punishment would preclude the student from otherwise participating in an educational field trip or extracurricular activity.¹

Absences excused under this bill are included when considering whether a student is excessively absent triggering a notice to the student's parent, guardian or custodian under continuing law. Under that law, a student is considered excessively absent when the student's combined nonmedical excused absences and unexcused absences exceed 38 hours in one school

¹ R.C. 3321.043.

month or 65 hours in a school year. However, only a student’s unexcused absences count toward truancy.²

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-24-25

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² R.C. 3321.191(C)(1), not in the bill.