



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: H.B. 21 of the 132nd G.A.
(L_132_0083-2)

Status: In House Education and Career Readiness

Sponsor: Rep. Hambley

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Subject: Community school enrollment verification

State & Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill shifts administrative costs of conducting monthly reviews of residency records of community school students from traditional school districts to community schools.
- However, traditional school districts may continue to incur some administrative costs in this area. In the event of a disagreement concerning a student's residency, the bill requires districts, instead of community schools, to provide documentation of a student's residency and to make a good faith effort in identifying a student's correct residence.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Current law requires school district boards of education to conduct monthly reviews of enrollment records of students in their districts who are enrolled in community schools. This review process includes verifying to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) the community school at which a student attends and that the student is entitled to attend school at that school district. Additionally, if there is a disagreement regarding a student's resident district, the community school must provide the student's resident district with documentation of the student's residency and make a good faith effort to correctly identify the student's residence. Furthermore, the community school may refer the matter to ODE. ODE is required to settle the dispute within 30 days and then make any necessary community school funding transfer adjustments.

Essentially, the bill reverses the district and community school roles concerning community school enrollment verification and student residency disputes. Under the bill, the governing board of a community school must conduct the monthly reviews of residency records of students enrolled in the community school. The governing board must submit verification to ODE of the resident school district, which the bill specifies must take place upon enrollment of each student and on an annual basis. The bill will therefore shift administrative costs of verifying community school student residency from traditional school districts to community schools. However, traditional school

districts may continue to incur some administrative costs in this area. The bill specifically permits the student's resident school district to review the determination made by the community school. In the event of a disagreement, the school district, instead of the community school, must provide documentation of the student's residency and make a good faith effort to accurately identify the student's correct residence and may refer the matter to ODE.

The bill also permits the State Board of Education and ODE to have access to information that would enable student data verification codes (often called student "SSID" numbers) to be matched to personally identifiable student data for the purpose of making per-pupil payments to community schools under the school funding formula. The bill may reduce the circumstances in which multiple SSID numbers are created in the Education Management Information System (EMIS) for the same student. Any effect on school funding is likely minimal, as EMIS already has the capability of recognizing some circumstances when multiple SSIDs are occurring and generating an error in those situations to prevent the new SSID from being created in the first place.

Synopsis of Fiscal Effect Changes

The substitute bill (L_132_0083-2) removes the fiscal effects associated with a provision in the As Introduced (previous) bill that eliminated the current law process under which ODE must settle a community school student residency dispute referred to it by the community school. Also, the substitute bill may increase the administrative responsibilities of school districts relative to the previous bill by permitting a district to review the residency determinations made by the community school and, in the event of a disagreement, requiring the district, instead of the community school as under current law, to provide documentation of the student's residency and to make a good faith effort to accurately identify the student's correct residence. The previous bill placed the responsibility of verifying residency solely on the community school. Finally, the substitute bill adds the provision regarding access to student data verification codes and any associated fiscal effects.