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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Office

H.B. 643
134th 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 activities or programs.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

4-H excused absences

The bill requires school districts to grant excused absences for participation in scheduled 4-H 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 educator must submit written documentation to the school principal or attendance officer as proof of student participation in a 4-H activity or program.

The bill, however, prohibits a school principal or a designee from granting an excused absence for participation in 4-H 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.¹

Absences excused under this bill specifically 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 month or 65 hours in a school year. However, only a student's unexcused absences count toward truancy.²

¹ R.C. 3321.043.

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

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-11-22
