



Jennifer Stump

*Bill Analysis*  
Legislative Service Commission

## **S.B. 237**

124th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Sens. Coughlin, White, Ryan**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Directs the Department of Education to provide matching grants of up to \$50,000 each to school districts in FY 2003 for the development of pilot character education programs.
- Transfers \$1,050,000 from the Alternative Education Programs line-item (200-421) in FY 2003 to fund the character education grants.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

Currently there are no state funds earmarked for character education in the appropriations for the FY 2002-2003 biennium, although it is possible some non-earmarked funds may be used for this purpose. The bill makes the use of funds for character education explicit by appropriating \$1,050,000 in fiscal year 2003 *specifically* for the Department of Education to provide matching grants of up to \$50,000 each to school districts for the development of pilot character education programs (secs. 44 and 44.18). These funds are transferred from the line item designated for Alternative Education Programs (200-421). Consequently, funds earmarked in fiscal year 2003 for the awarding of competitive matching grants and for the renewal of previous grants to the 21 urban school districts for alternative educational programs for at-risk and delinquent youth are reduced by a corresponding amount.<sup>1</sup> This transfer reduces the amount set aside for such alternative education grants from \$8,253,031 to \$7,203,031 in fiscal year 2003. (Secs. 44 and 44.05.)

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<sup>1</sup> *The 21 urban districts are the Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, Columbus, Dayton, East Cleveland, Elyria, Euclid, Hamilton, Lima, Lorain, Mansfield, Middletown, Parma, Southwestern, Springfield, Toledo, Warren, and Youngstown city school districts.*

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	02-19-02	p. 1478

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