Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

127 th General Assembly of Ohio

Ohio Legislative Service Commission
77 South High Street, 9th Floor, Columbus, OH 43215-6136 ✧ Phone: (614) 466-3615
✧ *Internet Web Site:* http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/

BILL: **Am. H.B. 181** DATE: **June 22, 2007**

STATUS: **As Reported by House Education** SPONSOR: **Rep. Setzer**

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: **No — Minimal cost**

CONTENTS: **Missing child school record keeping and investigations**

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 2007	FY 2008	FUTURE YEARS
School Districts			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	- 0 -	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase
Townships, Municipalities, and Counties – Law Enforcement Agencies			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	- 0 -	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase

Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calendar year. The school district fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

- Public and nonpublic schools may experience minimal increases in expenditures as a result of marking the records of students identified as missing children and notifying law enforcement agencies of requests for those records.

- Law enforcement agencies may experience minimal increases in expenditures if they choose to locate and notify the last school in which a child reported as missing was enrolled.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill requires a public or nonpublic school to mark the records of a missing student when the school is notified by a law enforcement agency that the student is the subject of a missing child report. It also requires a public or nonpublic school to notify the law enforcement agency when the missing child's records are requested. When responding to such a request, the public or nonpublic school is required to ensure that the receiving district or school will not be able to tell that the student's records have been marked. Upon notification by a law enforcement agency that the child is no longer missing, the public or nonpublic school is required to remove the mark from the student's records.

Public and nonpublic schools may experience minimal increases in expenditures as a result of marking the records of students identified as missing children and communicating with law enforcement agencies when missing students' records are requested. According to the Buckeye Association of School Administrators, it is likely that school districts would simply attach a note to a student's permanent enrollment card. Currently, a student's permanent enrollment card is generally photocopied for the school in which the student subsequently enrolls. The bill permits, but does not require, a law enforcement agency to notify the school that a child has been reported as missing. If a law enforcement agency chooses to notify the school, it may incur minimal increases in expenditures as a result of determining in which school the child was most recently enrolled and then notifying that school that the child has been reported as missing.

Current law requires law enforcement agencies to assist and cooperate with each other in missing child investigations. The bill specifies that such assistance and cooperation need to follow the agreed-upon terms. It also specifies that when law enforcement agency employees provide services related to missing child investigations outside their jurisdiction, they are covered by the state Sovereign Immunity Law, any indemnity fund established by their employer, and the state Workers' Compensation Law to the same extent as if providing services within their jurisdiction. These provisions do not appear to have any additional fiscal effects beyond current law.

LSC fiscal staff: Jenna Scheurman, Fiscal Intern

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