



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments*

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(S. Education)

Educational service centers (ESCs)

Specifies that if a "local" school district elects to receive services from an ESC in whose territory the district is not located, the statutory per pupil payments for those services must be paid to the ESC from which the district actually receives the services.

Requires service agreements between ESCs and local school districts for the 2012-2013 school year to be finalized by June 30, 2012.

Requires a local school district that intends to obtain services from a different ESC in the 2012-2013 school year to notify the ESC from which it currently receives those services by March 1, 2012, of the intended change.

Extends by two months to March 1, 2012, the deadline for a "city" or "exempted village" school district to notify an ESC that it intends to obtain services from a different ESC in the 2012-2013 school year, and specifies that failure to meet the deadline results in automatic renewal of the service agreement for one year.

Requires an ESC to be dissolved when it no longer has any agreements to provide school districts with services for which per pupil payments are made.

Specifies that when an ESC is dissolved, the territory of each of the local school districts that made up the ESC's territory is no longer part of the territory of any ESC.

Public college-preparatory boarding schools

Facilities acquisition

Requires the College-Preparatory Boarding School Facilities Program to comply with the Classroom Facilities Assistance Program for school districts, except for provisions related to the issuance of bonds or the levying of taxes.

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.

Requires the Ohio School Facilities Commission to determine the cost of a college-preparatory boarding school's project based on all campus facilities needed for the school's operation, but limits the use of state funds to paying for classroom facilities that do not exceed the Commission's construction and design standards.

Directs the Commission to initiate the school's project upon execution of the contract between the State Board of Education and the school's operator establishing the school.

Requires release of the state funds encumbered for the project, if the school fails to secure the \$20 million of private money for nonclassroom facilities required by current law.

Allows the Commission and a college-preparatory boarding school to enter into an agreement to lease the school's site to a third party, who will develop facilities for the school and lease them back to the school in return for rental payments financed with state funds.

Other provisions

Eliminates the requirement that a college-preparatory boarding school qualify for and obtain a charter from the State Board of Education.

Transfers certain statutory duties from the operator of a college-preparatory boarding school to the school's board of trustees, including the duty to adopt bylaws for the school.

Revises the appointment of nongubernatorial members of the board of trustees of a college-preparatory boarding school.

Requires each college-preparatory boarding school to have a fiscal officer who meets standards established by the State Board of Education.

Directs the Department of Education to monitor college-preparatory boarding schools and to take action for a school's failure to comply with its bylaws or contract with the State Board or with applicable laws or rules.

Permits the resident school district of a student enrolled in a college-preparatory boarding school to meet its responsibility to provide weekly transportation to and from the school by contracting with a third party or by paying an agreed-upon amount to the school for the school's assumption of the transportation duties.

Requires student transportation to comply with all laws and rules regarding the construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses and the qualifications of drivers and mechanics.

Requires the Department of Education, when using federal funds to offset the per pupil boarding amount paid to a college-preparatory boarding school, to retain any portion of those funds that may be used for administration.

Requires regulatory agencies to use financial audits of a college-preparatory boarding school provided by the Auditor of State (rather than by the school's operator, as in current law) to monitor federal funds that are used to offset the per pupil boarding amount.

Emergency clause

Declares an emergency.