

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1215 – HB 1158

April 2, 2013

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires zero tolerance policies of local education agencies to include the transmitting by an electronic device any communication which contains a credible threat of bodily injury or death to another student. Requires school employees, students, or volunteers who witness, or has reliable information that a student has transmitted such a threat, to report this information to the appropriate school official in accordance with LEA policy. Failure to report such threats shall subject the LEA to a cause of action for damages arising from any injury or death that occurs to the subject of the threatened harm

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Other Fiscal Impact – To the extent an act occurs following a credible threat and there was a failure to report such threat to the appropriate authority, the LEA may be held liable in civil court, causing local government expenditures to increase by an unknown amount. Otherwise the fiscal impact of this bill is estimated to be not significant.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (006187): Deletes and rewrites Section 1(C) and 2(D) of the original bill such that the bill as amended requires zero tolerance policies of local education agencies (LEAs) to include the transmitting by an electronic device any communication which contains a credible threat of bodily injury or death to another student or school employee, and the transmission of the threat creates an actual disruption at the school that requires administrative intervention. Requires school employees, students, or volunteers who witness, or has reliable information that a student has transmitted such a threat to report this information to the appropriate school official as designated by LEA policy. The designated school official shall make a determination regarding the administration of the report.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

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Assumption for the bill as amended:

- Any increase in local expenditures to add language regarding such activity to LEA zero tolerance policies is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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