



February 3, 2020

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Authorizes a director of schools or the director's designee to remove a student from an alternative school or alternative program under certain conditions. Authorizes a director of schools, or the director's designee, to decide whether to enforce a suspension or expulsion of a student that has transferred from another LEA. Authorizes an LEA to decide whether to assign a student to an alternative school or alternative program if that student transferred from another LEA and has a remaining term on a suspension or expulsion.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (013703): Deletes and replaces language in the original bill such that the only substantive changes are to: 1) require a minimum suspension of more than 10 days before attendance in an alternative school or alternative program is mandatory for students in grades 7-12; and 2) authorize a director of schools, or director's designee, to assign a student who has been expelled for committing a zero tolerance offense to an alternative school or program and require the determination to be made on a case-by-case basis.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3402 requires mandatory attendance in an alternative school or alternative program if there is space available, for all students in grades seven through twelve who are expelled.
- Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-3402 establishes that attendance in an alternative school or alternative program shall be voluntary for students in grades one through six who have been suspended or expelled from the regular school program unless the local board of education adopts a policy mandating attendance in either instance.
- The proposed legislation does not require the expansion of an LEA's current alternative school program.

- LEAs will be able to comply with the proposed legislation within existing resources without a significant increase in expenditures.
- No significant impact to state or local operations.
- No change to the Basic Education Program

CERTIFICATION:

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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