



June 2, 2020

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Authorizes a local education agency (LEA) to offer an adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) training program partially or wholly online.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (017898): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Requires each local board of education to adopt a policy requiring the LEA's schools to develop plans to provide mental and behavioral health services to students with ACEs. Requires a school employee to report to the school principal or counselor if it is found that a student has one or more ACEs. Requires the school principal or counselor to confer with the student's parent within 10 days of the report, and refer, with the parent's consent, the student to a school mental health counselor. Requires the director of schools or the director's designee to confer with a student's parent and, with the parent's consent, refer the student to a community-based health provider within 15 days if a school principal or counselor fails to refer a student to a mental health counselor within 10 days of receiving the ACEs report. Prohibits an LEA, school, LEA employee, or other school employee from being liable for the cost of any counseling or other mental health services provided to a student. Requires each LEA to conduct at least one ACEs training seminar for parents and community-based partners.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Each local board of education will be able to adopt a policy requiring an LEA's schools to develop plans to provide mental and behavioral health services to students with ACEs within existing resources.
- Schools will refer students who require mental and behavioral health services to existing school mental health counselors or providers outside of the school system; employees will not be liable for any costs incurred by these services and such actions will not significantly impact local government expenditures.

- Current law, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-230(b), requires the DOE to develop a training program on ACEs for school leaders and teachers.
- In addition, and pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-230(c), an LEA may develop its own ACEs training program to make available to the LEA's school personnel.
- LEAs will be able to conduct at least one ACEs training seminar for parents and community-based partners from one of these two options using existing resources.
- Any impact to DOE is estimated to be not significant for the legislation does not place any additional requirements on the Department.

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

/alh