## Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number:	SB 1038			
	House of Origin	Introduced	Substitute		Engrossed
	Second House	In Committee	Substitute	$\square$	Enrolled

- **2. Patron:** Barker, George L.
- 3. Committee: Passed Both Houses
- 4. Title: Foster care; school placement
- **5. Summary:** The enrolled bill allows a child placed in foster care to remain at his original school, if upon joint determination of the placing social services agency and the local school division that such attendance is in the best interest of the child. The bill further requires that before making a foster care placement a similar school placement determination must be made in writing by the placing agency and school division. The bill also adds school placement to the foster care plan.
- 6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No
- 7. Fiscal Impact Is Unknown (see item 8)
- 8. Fiscal Implications: Currently, a foster care child may be allowed to remain at the school prior to placement if the sending division and receiving division agree to allow it. It is assumed that this legislation will remove the sending school divisions from the decision-making process. Any potential fiscal impact related to foster care placement ultimately depends on where the foster child is placed. At this time, it is unknown what impact, if any, the removal of the sending school division from the decision-making process would have on foster care placement. If a child moves from a low composite index division to a high composite index division, the state share of cost would decrease and vice versa. Without knowing the divisions affected by this legislation, it is not possible to reliably estimate any potential fiscal impact.
- **9.** Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Education Local School Divisions
- **10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** Yes. The bill should be amended to specify that which school division (sending, receiving or both) is a part of the joint determination. This statement assumes the receiving division.

## 11. Other Comments: None

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