

Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB217-ER

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ Enrolled

2. Patron: Barker

3. Committee: Passed both houses

4. Title: Public schools; residency of children in kinship care.

5. Summary: Allows a child receiving temporary kinship care from an adult relative to enroll in the school division where the kinship care provider resides. The bill also allows local school divisions to require one legal parent and the kinship care provider to sign affidavits (a) explaining why the parents are unable to care for the person, (b) detailing the kinship care arrangement, and (c) agreeing that the kinship care provider or the parent will notify the school within 30 days of when the kinship care arrangement ends, as well as a power of attorney authorizing the adult relative to make educational decisions regarding the child.

Further, a school division may also require the parent or adult relative to obtain written verification from the department of social services where the parent or parents live, or from both that department and the department of social services where the kinship provider lives, that the kinship arrangement serves a legitimate purpose other than school enrollment. If the kinship care arrangement lasts more than one year, a school division may require continued verification from one or both departments of social services as to why the parents are unable to care for the person and that the kinship care arrangement serves a legitimate purpose other than school enrollment. A local school division may enroll a child living with a relative in a kinship care arrangement that has not been verified by a local department of social services.

An enactment clause was also added to this bill stating that the provisions of the bill will expire on June 30, 2015.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation could result in some additional administrative costs for local school divisions and local departments of social services related to the verification of any kinship care arrangements; however, it is anticipated that any such costs would be absorbed within existing local resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Local departments of social services and local school divisions.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 3/14/2012

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