

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB726

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** McClellan

**3. Committee:** Appropriations

**4. Title:** Suspension and expulsion of students; continuation of curriculum.

**5. Summary:** The proposed legislation requires that each student who is suspended or expelled from attendance shall be afforded the opportunity to continue to progress in the curriculum of the school division during the suspension or expulsion. The bill requires all committees of the school board, division superintendents, school principals, assistant principals, and teachers considering disciplinary action for a student to consider alternatives to suspension or expulsion before suspending or expelling a student. The bill also requires any student who is suspended for more than 10 days cumulatively in a school year to receive a plan of positive behavioral interventions, strategies, and supports to address the student's behavior so that it does not continue to impede the student's learning or other students' learning. The bill specifies that the principal or designee shall ensure that any student who receives a short-term suspension has an opportunity to progress in the curriculum during the period of suspension, make up assignments, and earn credits missed, including the opportunity to complete homework, papers, and projects and take quizzes and exams. The bill also specifies that the division superintendent or his designee shall ensure that each student expelled pursuant specific Code sections receives educational services that allow him to progress in the curriculum. Educational services include homebound instruction, tutoring, an alternative education program, online learning, and distance learning. Students enrolled in homebound instruction, tutoring, an alternative education program, online learning, or distance learning shall be counted in the average daily membership (ADM) of the local school division.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** None.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate. See Item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** If this bill is enacted, there are anticipated state and local fiscal impacts resulting from this legislation. Inclusion of an expelled or long term suspended student in the division's ADM will increase the state's cost of direct aid.

While a definitive fiscal impact cannot be calculated, the following is provided as a point of reference:

School Year 2012-13	Number of Students
Long-term Suspensions	2,599
Expulsions	398
Modified Expulsions to Suspensions (likely long term)	1,628

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Local school divisions, Department of Education

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** None.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 2/4/2014 dpb/smc

**Document:** G:\GA\FIS 2014\HB726.H1docx.doc