

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB170

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

2. **Patron:** Stanley

3. **Committee:** Passed both houses

4. **Title:** Public schools; student discipline.

5. **Summary:** Except for drug offenses, firearm offenses, or certain criminal acts, prohibits students in preschool through grade three from being suspended for more than three school days or expelled from attendance at school, unless (i) the offense involves physical harm or credible threat of physical harm to others or (ii) the local school board or the division superintendent or his designee finds that aggravating circumstances exist.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** Under current regulations, a student suspended or expelled for more than 15 days who does not receive alternate education from the public school division, such as home-based education, is removed from Average Daily Membership (ADM). This bill could reduce the volume of long-term suspensions and expulsions, resulting in an indeterminate increase in ADM. Any additional cost to the state cannot be determined at this time but likely is minimal.

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

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. **Other Comments:** None