



House of Representatives

File No. 612

General Assembly

January Session, 2007

(Reprint of File No. 462)

Substitute House Bill No. 7350
As Amended by House Amendment
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner
April 27, 2007

AN ACT CONCERNING IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 10-233a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2007*):

4 (c) "In-school suspension" means an exclusion from regular
5 classroom activity for no more than [five] ten consecutive school days,
6 but not exclusion from school, provided such exclusion shall not
7 extend beyond the end of the school year in which such in-school
8 suspension was imposed.

9 Sec. 2. Section 10-233c of the general statutes is amended by adding
10 subsection (f) as follows (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

11 (NEW) (f) Suspensions pursuant to this section shall be in-school
12 suspensions, unless during the hearing held pursuant to subsection (a)
13 of this section, the administration determines that the pupil being
14 suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or such a

- 15 disruption of the educational process that the pupil shall be excluded
- 16 from school during the period of suspension.

| | | |
|---|---------------------|------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | 10-233a(c) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | 10-233c |

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 08 \$ | FY 09 \$ |
|------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Education, Dept. | GF - Cost | Potential | Potential |

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

| Municipalities | Effect | FY 08 \$ | FY 09 \$ |
|--------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| All Municipalities | Cost | Potential | Potential |

Explanation

The bill reduces the possibility of out-of-school suspensions which may result in school districts having to provide alternative in-school programs not currently utilized. This may result in an increased need of staff. The potential cost would likely be minimal although larger school districts with numerous suspensions could see costs which would be considered more than minimal. The potential cost is dependent on the chosen path of implementing in-school suspensions rather than out-of-school suspensions.

House "A" is technical and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 7350 (as amended by House "A")******AN ACT CONCERNING IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill generally prohibits out-of-school suspensions and extends, from five to 10 days, the maximum length of in-school suspensions. By law, a student can be suspended for conduct (1) that violates a publicized board policy or seriously disrupts the educational process or (2) on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity that endangers persons or property. The law defines suspension as exclusion from school privileges or from transportation services only for up to 10 consecutive school days.

The bill requires suspensions to be in-school suspensions unless the school administration determines, at the required informal suspension hearing, that the student (1) poses such a danger to persons or property or (2) is so disruptive of the educational process, that he or she must serve the suspension outside of school. Current law defines in-school suspension as exclusion from classroom activity, but not from school, for up to five consecutive days. The bill extends this to 10 consecutive days. Under existing law, an exclusion from school privileges for more than 10 days constitutes an expulsion.

The law allows students to be placed in in-school suspension up to 15 times or a total of 50 days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days. Students can be suspended out-of-school only 10 times or 50 days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days.

*House Amendment "A" adds the 10-day limit on in-school suspensions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007

BACKGROUND

Related Bills

HB 7273, reported favorably by the Education Committee, allows boards of education to, under certain circumstances, waive or shorten suspension and expulsion periods and expunge notice of the disciplinary actions from student records.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 30 Nay 0 (03/26/2007)