

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Conger, Dembrow, Frederick, Huffman, Komp, Parrish, Gelser, Wingard
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Victoria Cox, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/9, 4/15

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs Department of Education (ODE) to develop grant program to fund school district efforts to reduce high school dropout rates. Establishes High School Prevention Grant Fund and continuously appropriates moneys to ODE for grant program. Specifies that grants may be awarded to individual school districts or consortiums of school districts. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Integration of service
- Century High School “Care Team”
- Impact on most vulnerable students
- Identification of students and development of interventions
- Resulting decreases in drop-out rates

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies that grants may be awarded to individual school districts or to consortiums of school districts and that funds may be used for administrative expenses relating to the program. Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

BACKGROUND: House Bill 2286-A creates a grant program to fund local school district efforts to address high school dropout rates. The Department of Education is directed to develop rules requiring districts receiving grants to establish programs that accomplish the following:

- Manage a team of administrators, counselors, teachers, law enforcement personnel and social service agencies
- Develop a system to track the attendance of students at risk of dropping out
- Engage parents in crafting strategies to keep their children in school

Additionally, House Bill 2286-A establishes the High School Dropout Prevention Grant Fund in the State Treasury, credits the fund with any interest earned, allows it to receive grants, donations and contributions, and continuously appropriates moneys to ODE for program grants to school districts and for administration of the grant program.