

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass As Amended and Be Referred to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	8 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Fagan, Gomberg, Gorsek, Huffman, Parrish, Reardon, Whisnant, Gelser
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Sprenger
Prepared By:	Lea Kear, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/22, 2/27, 3/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Directs the State Board of Education to adopt a process for receiving and investigating complaints about the use of physical restraint or seclusion in schools, and requires entities that have jurisdiction over public education programs to submit annual reports on the use of physical restraint or seclusion in schools to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Circumstances in which restraint or seclusion can be used
- Purpose of the complaint process to enforce standards
- Function of the amendments, in particular of the dash four amendment to combine the prior amendments

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: (-1) Sets minimum standards for seclusion rooms and requires this information to be included in the annual report. (-3) Requires individuals to seek remedy from board or governing body prior to submitting a complaint. (-4) Combined amendment of (-1) and (-3).

BACKGROUND: Physical restraint or seclusion is only allowed under certain circumstances. According to current law, after an incident involving the use of physical restraint or seclusion, a parent or guardian must have certain information provided to them verbally and in writing. This information includes such details as the location of the physical restraint or seclusion, the efforts made to de-escalate the situation, and a description of the student's activity that prompted the action. There is not a complaint process in place for parents to use under the current provisions. House Bill 2585 adds requirements for a process to investigating complaints, and submitting reports on an annual basis.