

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/10/16

Action: Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Meeting Dates: 02/08, 02/10

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Baertschiger Jr, Beyer, Gelser, Knopp, Kruse, Roblan

Exc: 1 - Hass

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Extends, for two years, sunset on provisions that allow students whose legal residence is not within school district to attend school in district as resident if student receives written consent .

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of open enrollment, beginning with HB 3681 (2011)
- Value of increased transfer options generally to students and parents
- Confusing, complicated nature of existing transfer options
- Wide range of opinions about transfers, open enrollment, among parents, students, school board members, and educators

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND:

Currently there are three main methods by which a student may attend public school in another school district that is not the student's resident district: interdistrict transfer (consent); contract (tuition); and, open enrollment. House Bill 3681 (2011) created the open enrollment transfer option, in which only the receiving district must agree to receive transferring students. The provisions of House Bill 3681 creating open enrollment are repealed on July 1, 2017.

Senate Bill 1566-A extends the sunset on the provisions of law created by House Bill 3681, through 2019.