
HOUSE BILL No. 1566

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-19; IC 20-20-28-4; IC 20-26-5; IC 20-34-3-21.

Synopsis: School absenteeism and dropouts. Makes reduction of absenteeism in schools a policy priority for the department of education. Requires school corporations and schools to identify contributing factors to absenteeism and to develop chronic absence reduction plans. Directs the education roundtable to study and make recommendations concerning early childhood education. Requires the department of education to focus on implementing early childhood education programs that mirror proven early education programs. Requires school corporations to share data on high chronic absence schools with the department of education and family and social services to target allocation of resources and programs to improve student attendance. Allows school corporations to collaborate with public and private entities to provide professional development opportunities to help teachers and administrators understand the factors contributing to chronic absence and to address those factors. Allows school corporations to contract with nonprofit entities to provide health care services in school based clinics to students enrolled in schools within the school corporation.

Effective: July 1, 2011.

Porter

January 20, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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First Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2011)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL No. 1566



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-19-3-11 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2011]: **Sec. 11. The department shall make reduction of**
4 **absenteeism in schools a policy priority and direct school**
5 **corporations and schools to:**

- 6 (1) **identify contributing factors of absenteeism; and**
- 7 (2) **develop chronic absence reduction plans.**

8 SECTION 2. IC 20-19-4-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005, SECTION
9 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
10 2011]: Sec. 7. (a) The roundtable shall **study and** provide
11 recommendations on subjects related to education, **including early**
12 **childhood education**, to the following:

- 13 (1) The governor.
- 14 (2) The state superintendent.
- 15 (3) The general assembly.
- 16 (4) The state board.
- 17 (b) The recommendations to the general assembly must be in an



1 electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
 2 SECTION 3. IC 20-20-28-4, AS ADDED BY P.L.1-2005,
 3 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 4 JULY 1, 2011]: Sec. 4. (a) The department shall establish pilot
 5 programs targeting at risk students in the following areas:
 6 (1) Early childhood parental information programs.
 7 (2) Latch key programs.
 8 (3) Preschool programs.
 9 (b) In establishing the pilot programs under this chapter, the
 10 department shall focus on implementing programs that:
 11 (1) **mirror proven early education programs; and**
 12 (2) **enable the local school corporation and appropriate**
 13 **community agencies to cooperate with each other.**
 14 (c) The department shall address the following in establishing the
 15 programs:
 16 (1) Screening for physical health problems that can inhibit school
 17 success.
 18 (2) Screening for learning disabilities.
 19 (3) Parental orientation and participation.
 20 (d) In addition, the department shall employ an early childhood
 21 specialist and support staff personnel to identify and determine ways
 22 to coordinate the educational programs offered by local youth serving
 23 organizations.
 24 SECTION 4. IC 20-26-5-33 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 25 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 26 1, 2011]: **Sec. 33. School corporations shall share data on schools**
 27 **with a high number of chronic student absences with the**
 28 **department and with the office of the secretary of family and social**
 29 **services to:**
 30 (1) **target allocation of resources; and**
 31 (2) **identify or develop model programs to improve school**
 32 **attendance.**
 33 SECTION 5. IC 20-26-5-34 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 34 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 35 1, 2011]: **Sec. 34. The governing body of a school corporation may**
 36 **contract with a private or public entity to provide professional**
 37 **development activities to help teachers and administrators**
 38 **understand the factors contributing to chronic absences from**
 39 **school and how to address those factors.**
 40 SECTION 6. IC 20-34-3-21 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 41 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 42 1, 2011]: **Sec. 21. The governing body of a school corporation may**

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1 **contract with a nonprofit organization to provide preventive and**
2 **primary health care services in school based clinics to students**
3 **enrolled in schools within the school corporation.**

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