



March 13, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (005223): Requires each local education agency (LEA) that operates a high school and each public charter high school to offer independent study to meet the educational needs of its students. Requires the local board of education for an LEA that operates a high school and the governing body of a public charter high school to adopt and implement a policy that complies with the rules of the State Board of Education (SBE). Establishes certain requirements for an LEA that operates a high school and a public charter high school that offers an independent study program. Requires SBE to promulgate rules relative to independent study programs. Applies to the 2023-24 school year and each school year thereafter.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- "Independent study" is defined as a form of education that addresses individual student needs and learning styles by affording students the opportunity to direct the student's study into areas of inquiry, topics, or employment that are not generally offered to students as part of a traditional classroom curriculum.
- An independent study program may not last longer than 15 school days and the proposed legislation does not require students to participate in an independent study, only for such programs to be made available.
- LEAs and public charter schools will be able to offer independent study programs to students within existing resources and SBE will be able to promulgate rules during the normal course of business; therefore, any state or local fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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