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ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION



WORK SESSION DOCUMENT

April 7, 2003

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DD 1/4

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION
DATE: 4/7/03 ROOM: 3143 EXHIBIT DD
SUBMITTED BY: CAROL STONEFIELD

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Sponsor: Assemblyman Manendo et al.

Assembly Bill 234 authorizes a school bus driver to remove a disruptive pupil. The procedures to follow in this event include notification to the parents or guardians, a conference among the principal, driver, pupil, and parent/guardian. At the district level, a board of trustees must establish a special committee to review the removal of the privilege to ride the bus. When a pupil who was removed from a bus is reinstated and the driver does not agree, the district level committee must be convened to review the action. The privilege to ride the bus may be removed for 5 days in addition to the days the pupil has been prohibited from riding the bus pursuant to the provisions of this act.

Proponents: The bill is patterned after Assembly Bill 521 from the 1999, which allows teachers to remove disruptive pupils. Bus drivers said that disruptive pupils were endangering lives when the bus is moving. Numerous anecdotes were related. Proponents said that support for bus drivers and enforcement of rules of conduct on buses was not uniform from school to school. Some said that drivers were required not to write citations on pupils who were misbehaving.

Opponents: The bill is unnecessary because policies and rules already exist. These just need to be enforced. Parents and pupils have due process rights. Bus drivers would have to attend meetings with parents outside of their regular workday. Principals do not supervise bus drivers.

In Clark County, 2.4 million pupils are transported monthly. About 500 citations are issued per month. That is less than 1 percent of the population. Regulation 3533 in Clark County School District is working well, although some school administrators are not aware of its provisions.

Fiscal Impact: Local Government: varies by district

Proposed Amendments:

From Craig Kadlub, Director, Public Affairs, Clark County School District (see attached)

DD 3/4

Craig Kadlub, Director, Public Affairs, Clark County School District, wrote in an electronic mail message, dated April 1, 2003:

The Clark County School District would propose that sections 2 through 5 be replaced with the following provision:

Sec. 2. 1. Each school district shall establish in regulation a procedure which ensures that transportation personnel have the means to immediately report to a principal's supervisor the failure of that principal to follow the established district policies and regulations relating to the discipline of students.

2. The regulation shall specify that:

a. The driver shall provide to his supervisor a copy of his documentation of the student's offense and the administrator's subsequent action;

b. The supervisor shall contact the principal to advise him of his perceived noncompliance with policy;

c. If the principal fails to take corrective action, the driver's supervisor shall forward the documentation of the instance of perceived noncompliance to the administrator over transportation services;

d. The administrator of transportation services shall, within three school days, provide to the administrator who supervises the perceived noncompliant principal the documentation of noncompliance; and

e. The principal's supervisor shall, within three school days of receipt of the complaint, confer with the school administrator to review the complaint and review as necessary the administrator's regulatory responsibilities related to student discipline on behalf of transportation staff.

3. Consequences for an administrator who violates this section shall be consistent with provisions outlined in the collective bargaining agreement of each district.

DD 4/4