

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6993**

**BILL NUMBER: HB 1221**

**DATE PREPARED: Mar 6, 2001**

**BILL AMENDED: Mar 5, 2001**

**SUBJECT:** Supervision of Suspended or Expelled Children.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Kathy Norris

**PHONE NUMBER:** 234-1360

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
X FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill provides that a student who has been suspended or expelled from school is required to remain at the student's residence during school hours, with certain exceptions. The bill specifies that the parents or guardian of a student who has violated this chapter may be liable for up to \$10,000 in damages resulting from a violation of this chapter. It also establishes penalties for violating this chapter. The bill makes suspension truancy a delinquent act. It requires a school to notify the juvenile court if a child is suspended or expelled. The bill makes conforming amendments.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) This bill creates suspension truancy as a juvenile status offense and establishes a set of circumstances for which a court may declare a child to be a child in need of services. Out-of-home placements and services to children in need of services are funded by the local county Family and Children's Fund. Certain Out-of-Home placements may be matched with Federal IV-E funds, and CHINS are eligible for Medicaid services. Child welfare caseworkers and other staff of the local Offices of Family and Children are state employees. Additions to the number of children being supervised by the county Offices of Family and Children may result in the need for additional staff.

It is not known how many of the students suspended or expelled from school might fall within the parameters of this bill. It is possible that a student that is suspended or expelled and inadequately supervised has already encountered either the child welfare system or the juvenile justice system. It is also possible that some number of the students suspended or expelled are enrolled in an Alternative Education Program operated by the school corporation.

The following table illustrates the number of suspensions and expulsions from school years 1996 through 1999 (data for 2000 are not yet complete).

**Suspensions and Expulsions for School Years 1996-1999**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>SUSPENSIONS</b>	<b>EXPULSIONS</b>
1999	305,767	9,263
1998	302,593	10,229
1997	306,034	9,340
1996	227,326	8,982

The bill requires the schools to immediately notify parents in writing of a student's suspension and the parent's increased civil liability for actions of the child and to notify the juvenile court of the suspension and the student's misconduct. The schools are also required to notify the juvenile court of the expulsion of a student. If the school's notification to the parent of the student is sufficient for the notification of the court, and it is assumed that each notice costs \$0.50 to photocopy and send, this provision would cost approximately \$157,500 annually.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** (Revised) Out-of-home placements and services to children in need of services are primarily funded by the local county Family and Children's Fund. Certain out-of-home placements may be matched with Federal IV-E funds, and CHINS are eligible for Medicaid services.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Family and Children.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local Courts; local law enforcement agencies; local schools.

**Information Sources:** DOE ORACLE Data Tables and SAS Data Sets.