STUDENT ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION TO OTHER SCHOOLS

The bill allows school districts to transport enrolled students from another school district under certain circumstances. The bill may increase school district workload and expenditures for transporting students.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, school districts are required to have open enrollment policies that allow a student to enroll in a district school other than his or her assigned school, or to enroll in a school in another school district. For students who enroll across district boundaries, a receiving school district may only transport students from an adjacent school district, and may only reimburse a parent or guardian for transporting such students, if the adjacent school district consents to the transportation.

This bill allows a local school district board of education to transport a student from any district and to arrange transportation for enrolled students without seeking the consent of the student’s resident district, if in the preceding school year, that student was eligible for free or reduced-cost lunch, is a child with a disability, or received special education services. A local board may also reimburse a parent or guardian for furnishing transportation for a qualifying student or students, regardless of the students’ school district of residence.

School District

The bill may minimally impact the workload and expenditures of school districts choosing to extend transportation services across district lines, or to reimburse parents for the cost to transport students.
Effective Date

The bill was postponed indefinitely by the Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee on February 19, 2020.

State and Local Government Contacts

Education                     School Districts

The revenue and expenditure impacts in this fiscal note represent changes from current law under the bill for each fiscal year. For additional information about fiscal notes, please visit: leg.colorado.gov/fiscalnotes.