



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [Am. H.B. 462 of the 129th G.A.](#) **Date:** December 3, 2012
Status: As Reported by House Education **Sponsor:** Rep. Pelanda

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Requires the release of student records under certain conditions

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- A school district may have a reduced ability to collect certain charges owed to the district by students for whom a complaint has been filed alleging that the student is an abused, neglected, or dependent child.
- A school district may incur costs for having to report the number of students for which it has had to send transcripts and the amount of fees lost in complying with the bill. Any costs are likely to be negligible.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Under current law, a school district has the authority to withhold a student's grades and credits, if the student has failed to pay certain fees and charges owed to the district.¹ The bill provides an exception to this authority, under certain conditions, when a complaint has been filed alleging that the student is an abused, neglected, or dependent child. As the bill takes away, in certain cases, one of a district's tools to enforce the payment of these fees and charges, the bill may result in less money being collected by the district. This cost, however, is not likely to be significant.

The bill also requires that each school district annually report to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) the number of students for which the district has had to send transcripts and the total amount of unpaid fees lost due to compliance with the bill. Districts may incur costs for this reporting requirement, although any costs are likely to be negligible.

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¹ As one example, suppose a student loses a textbook provided by the district and the district charges the student for the loss. If the student moves to another district, the first district may refuse to provide the student's academic records to the new district until the student has paid the charge.