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H.B. 118
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. D. Manning

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Summary

- Prohibits school districts from reducing student transportation it has opted to provide after the first day of the school year.
- Prohibits a school district from levying a new tax if it reduced the number of bus routes or transportation it has opted to provide students in the school year for which a levy is proposed.

Detailed Analysis

Change in student transportation

The bill prohibits a school district from reducing transportation to students to whom the district provides, but is not required under law to provide, transportation after the first day of the school year.¹

Generally, a district must provide transportation for students in grades K to 8 who live more than two miles from school, whether they attend district schools, public community or science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) schools, or private schools that hold a state charter. The law specifically permits, but in most circumstances does not require, school districts to provide transportation for resident high school students who are not disabled. Each district also must transport all of its resident children who are so disabled that they are unable to walk to and from their school or special education classes and if a student's individualized education program (IEP) requires transportation. Finally, a district must transport career-technical education students to their respective programs.²

If a district opts to transport high school students, it appears that the district must offer that service to private and community school students, as well as those attending its own

¹ R.C. 3327.015.

² R.C. 3327.01, not in the bill.

schools. Thus, under the bill, a school district could not reduce transportation after the first day of school to high school to high school students it has chosen to transport for that school year.

Tax levy

The bill also prohibits a school district from levying a new tax, or replacing or renewing an existing tax for current expenses, if in the school year for which the levy is proposed, the district reduced the number of bus routes it uses to transport students to and from school or reduced the transportation it provides to students for whom the law does not require transportation.³ The reduction is determined compared to the transportation provided in the previous school year.

History

Action	Date
Introduced	03-04-19

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³ R.C. 5705.2115.