



www.lsc.ohio.gov

OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 58
136th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 58's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Craig and Reynolds

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: Yes

Jorge Valdebenito, Economist, and other LBO staff

Highlights

- State foundation aid may shift between school districts if additional children relocate from their current school district or other public school to another district or school where their caretaker resides as a result of the bill.
- Because of an increase in potential applications for powers of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavits, juvenile courts or public children services agencies (PCSAs) may realize administrative costs. Costs will depend on the number of additional applications received.

Detailed Analysis

The bill expands the individuals who may be granted a grandparent power of attorney or a caretaker authorization affidavit by replacing the term “grandparent” with “caretaker” throughout the relevant statutes. This change extends eligibility to relatives by blood, adoption, or marriage, as well as nonrelative adults who have an established relationship or bond with the child or the child’s family. In general, these documents authorize the individuals to exercise certain rights and responsibilities regarding a child’s care that include, for example, consenting to medical treatment for the child and enrolling the child in school.

Under continuing law, the state foundation aid formula, the main source of state support for public schools, funds students in the school district or other public school in which the student is educated. The Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) calculates the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students enrolled in each district based on the proportion of the school year the student is enrolled in a district or school. For example, if a full-time traditional district student left a district to enroll in another halfway through the school year, the student would be counted as 0.5 FTE in the first district and 0.5 FTE in the second.

The bill, therefore, may lead to shifts in state education funding if it increases the instances in which a child enrolls in the district where their caretaker resides, if different from the school district or other public school in which the student is currently enrolled. The magnitude of any such shifts in state funding and on individual districts and schools is indeterminate but some districts and schools may receive more state funding while others may receive less. In general, the fiscal effects will depend on the number of children residing with someone other than their parents who newly qualify as caretakers under the bill and enroll in a different school district or school as well as the funding circumstances of the affected districts or schools. For example, a district that is receiving “guarantee” funds may not experience any change in state funding from gaining or losing a student.

The bill also may increase juvenile court costs. More individuals would have the potential to execute a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit. This would result in an increase in administrative costs for juvenile courts, depending on the number of additional applications filed. This may also increase the number of caretaker home evaluations performed by public children services agencies (PCSAs), which would result in costs.