

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6837

BILL NUMBER: SB 211

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 27, 2024

BILL AMENDED: Feb 26, 2024

SUBJECT: Various Education Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Raatz

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Behning

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Department of Education (DOE) to establish a civics proficiency designation. The bill provides that charter schools and charter school corporations are public agencies subject to the open meetings and open records laws. It provides that a school corporation may include instruction regarding Internet safety in the school corporation's curriculum. It also requires the DOE to approve previously developed age appropriate curricula concerning Internet safety not later than July 1, 2025. The bill provides that an individual may remove a disruptive student from a classroom for the duration of the class period to prevent an interference with an educational function that the individual supervises. It provides that an individual may not remove a student if the disruption is attributable to certain programs or plans. It provides that an individual may refuse to readmit a disruptive student if the student's presence would continue to cause an interference with an educational function that the individual supervises.

Effective Date: July 1, 2024.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Civics Proficiency Designation:* Beginning in FY 2025, provisions in the bill require the Department of Education (DOE) to establish a civics proficiency designation. The designation will recognize students who demonstrate an understanding of civil society, constitutional government, and the democratic process. The bill's requirements are within the agency's routine administrative functions and should be able to be implemented with no additional appropriations, assuming near customary agency staffing and resource levels.

Internet Safety: This bill requires DOE to develop or approve age-appropriate curricula on certain internet safety topics by FY 2026. The bill's requirements are within the agency's routine administrative functions and should be able to be implemented with no additional appropriations, assuming near customary agency staffing and resource levels.

Additional Information: Internet Safety: DOE was required to develop guidelines for the development and teaching of internet safety curricula under Public Law 119-2008, which remained in effect until it was repealed in 2015. Although this bill's requirements are more specific, foundational elements of curricula developed under P.L. 119 should be applicable to this bill's requirements. Additionally, the Cybersecurity for Education Toolkit developed by the Indiana Executive Council on Cybersecurity could have resources helpful in developing curricula.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill authorizes, but does not require, the addition of internet safety instruction into a school corporation's curriculum. Schools that adopt this curricula may incur additional costs and/or workload related to instruction. The additional funds and resources required could be supplied through existing staff and resources currently being used in another program or with new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend on legislative and administrative actions.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Public schools.

Information Sources:

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