

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 892 - SB 1155**

March 1, 2023

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Adds the director of schools as a person to whom a principal must report direct knowledge of an assault and battery or vandalism endangering life, health or safety committed by a student on school property or receiving a report of such action. Expands the Educator's Bill of Rights and establishes that an educator has the right to: 1) report students who commit offenses of assault and battery or vandalism on school property endangering the life, health, or safety of others; and 2) receive benefits in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-5-714 if the educator is a teacher who is absent from the teacher's assigned duties as a result of personal injury caused by a physical assault or other violent criminal act committed against the teacher in the course of the teacher's employment activities.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- Every principal is currently required to report knowledge of certain assault and batteries by a student to the municipal or metropolitan police department or sheriff's department having jurisdiction. Adding the director of schools as a recipient of such reports will not significantly impact state or local operations.
- Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-5-714(a) establishes that when a teacher is absent from assigned duties as a result of personal injury caused by a physical assault or other violent criminal act committed against the teacher in the course of the teacher's employment activities, the teacher shall receive benefits, comparable to a workers' compensation program, for up to one year after the injury, if the local education agency (LEA) has workers' compensation coverage.
- Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-5-714(b) further establishes that the LEA shall continue to pay the teacher's full benefits including, but not limited to, health insurance benefits.
- The expansion of the Educator's Bill of Rights duplicates the protections already afforded to teachers under Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-5-714; therefore, any local fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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