

Fiscal Analysis

TRUANCY POLICIES AND SANCTIONS



Bill/Sponsor **HOUSE BILL 4207 as introduced**, Rep. Artina Tinsley Hardman
HOUSE BILL 4208 as introduced, Rep. Artina Tinsley Hardman
HOUSE BILL 4209 as introduced, Rep. Artina Tinsley Hardman

House Committee Education

Analysis **Summary**

The bills constitute a package of legislation providing for adoption, implementation, and enforcement of truancy policies. Depending on state and local responses to truancy violations, the bills could increase state and local workloads and costs.

Fiscal Impact

House Bill 4207 would amend the Revised School Code to require intermediate school districts (ISDs) to develop a local truancy policy in cooperation with county prosecutors. The policy would apply to all school districts within the ISD, except districts with their own truancy officer, which would develop their own policies. The local truancy policies developed under this bill would be required to be submitted to the state Board of Education for approval. HB 4207 also makes failure to comply with the truancy policies a misdemeanor and specifies punishment for a parent or other person found guilty of such noncompliance.

HB 4207 would have an indeterminate fiscal impact to the state for Board of Education staff time and other potential administrative costs related to reviewing and approving local truancy policies. It would also have an indeterminate local fiscal impact to ISDs and school districts for the development, submission, and implementation of the policies.

House Bill 4208 would amend the juvenile code to provide for court jurisdiction and authority over truants and their parents and guardians in cases of violation of a truancy policy provided for under HB 4207. Only a school district or ISD superintendent or designee or the prosecutor could petition the court to take jurisdiction. If the court determined that the allegations were supported, it would take jurisdiction, hold a hearing, and order the juvenile to attend school and order the secretary of state either to suspend or deny the juvenile's driver's license for up to two years. The court also could order the juvenile, his or her parents, or school authorities to take other actions that the court found necessary to resolve the attendance problem.

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The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the family division of the circuit court. It could increase caseloads, and thus could increase costs or administrative burdens on the local courts.

House Bill 4209 would amend 1949 PA 300, the Michigan Vehicle Code, by adding two new sections. The first section would prohibit the Secretary of State from issuing a drivers' license, for a specified period of not more than two years, to a juvenile who is adjudicated for truancy. The second section would require the Secretary of State to immediately suspend a juvenile's drivers' license, for a specified period of not more than two years, if the juvenile is adjudicated for truancy. The state would experience a loss of the revenue paid for obtaining and renewing drivers' licenses.

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COMMITTEE ANALYSIS - 9/29/03

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