



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2788

PRINTERS NO. 4333

PRIME SPONSOR: Topper

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	

#### SUMMARY:

House Bill 2788 amends the Public School Code by adding sections concerning extended special education enrollment due to COVID-19 and an option year of education due to COVID-19. It would take effect immediately.

#### ANALYSIS:

House Bill 2788 adds two new sections to the Public School Code, one concerning an extended special education enrollment due to COVID-19 and another for an option year of education due to COVID-19.

The School Code currently allows students to attend a public school free of charge until they graduate from high school or until the end of the term in which they turn 21. This legislation provides that, for the 2020-2021 school year, a parent or guardian may enroll a student with a disability who, during the 2019-2020 school year, was enrolled in a school entity and reached 21 years of age on or after the issuance of the proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020. The school entity must enroll the student in accordance with the student's Individualized Education Plan, the student may enroll in the school entity for the 2020-2021 school year free of charge until the end of the school year, and the student's attendance shall be included in the school entity's average daily membership for purposes of calculating the special education subsidy.

House Bill 2788 also adds an option year of education due to COVID-19. It provides that, for the 2021-2022 school year, a parent may elect to have a child in a school entity repeat a grade level to make up for any lost educational opportunities during the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years regardless of whether the child met the requirements to be promoted to the next grade level. This parental election includes participation in all academic or extracurricular activities, except for interscholastic athletics. School entities must create a process for parents to make this election and post that process on the school entity's website.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Enactment of this legislation could have a fiscal impact on school entities by increasing the number of students they are required to educate. The extent of this impact would vary by school entity based on the number of students that elect to take advantage of the age extension and option year of education provided for in this legislation and the cost of providing the additional education at the school entity.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** September 2, 2020

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*