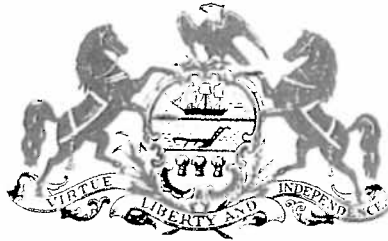


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Memorandum

To: All House Members
From: Representative Bernie O'Neill 
Date: January 11, 2011
Subject: Education of Expelled Students Legislation - former HB 868

I am re-introducing legislation that provides for the education of students who have been expelled from public school. As a teacher, I saw firsthand how expensive it was to remove an expelled student from the student population he or she threatened.

Currently, the only rules on how public schools deal with expelled students are found in Chapter 12 of the regulations of the State Board of Education. This legislation will take some portions of those regulations and establish them in statute. The remainder of the bill deals with some of the issues not addressed in the regulations. Specifically, the legislation:

- **exempts public school entities generally** from having to spend any funds on a student's education during a period of expulsion (which might be up to 12 months).
- **makes parents or legal guardians responsible** for the alternative education of their expelled child within thirty days of expulsion.
- permits **alternative forms of education** to be determined by the district if the student's parents cannot afford alternative education on their own.
- provides for **readmission or continued alternative education** of the expelled student after 12 months of expulsion.
- Establishes rules for the readmission of an expelled student.
- Implements guidelines for admitting students expelled **from another school entity or a nonpublic school**.
- Allows for **provisional enrollment** of a transferring student until the student's disciplinary records have arrived.
- Requires proper notification of the parents in the case of a student expulsion.
- Requires compliance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), whenever the **disciplined student is a special needs student**.

If you wish to be listed as a co-sponsor on this legislation to bring common sense back into our school discipline rules, please contact Connie McClure in my Harrisburg office at 705-1710 or e-mail cmcclure@pahousegop.com.