

Alternative Education Programs Policy 2.302

The Background:

This item is to ensure compliance with Public Chapter 465 of the Public Acts of 2019. This update adds the requirement that students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who have been suspended or expelled must be assigned to an alternative school or program, if there is space and staff available. Attendance in an alternative school or program shall be voluntary for students in grades one through six (1-6) who have been suspended or expelled, unless otherwise mandated by the local board.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.