Agenda

First Reading Item: V. E.

Individualized Education Accounts Rule 0520-01-11-.02

The Background:

The Individualized Education Account (IEA) Program is a school choice program for eligible students with qualifying disabilities. Section 21 of Chapter 235 of the Public Acts of 2025 amended Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-10-1402 by adding deafness as a qualifying disability for the IEA Program. This item ensures the list of qualifying disabilities is aligned in statute and in rule.

State Board staff will hold a rulemaking hearing between first and final reading to collect public feedback.

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 beyond the authorizing legislation.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring that rules are reviewed and updated based on changes in the law.

The Recommendation:

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