

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25250

The purpose of this legislation is to assist public schools in accessing federal Medicaid flow-through dollars to provide federally-mandated services to special-needs students. Specifically, the legislation clarifies the difference between school-based Medicaid reimbursement program and the for-profit community-based program and sets out definitions related to this new section. This legislation also sets out what services can be provided to a special-needs student, how often the services need to be reviewed, when reimbursement for the services will begin, and who can authorize those services. This legislation sets our specific parameters for an Interagency Student Services Support Committee, specifically: the committee membership and terms of office, governance of the committee, committee voting rights, the committee's mission. The committee will report back to the legislature annually. This legislation states that public schools can receive reimbursement for Medicaid Administrative Claiming (or "MAC Claiming") which will allow public schools to seek reimbursement for provided eligible administrative services. It also sets parameters for a professional development program for staff in public schools who submit reimbursement for these services. Finally, the legislation sets out accountability measures to assure that public schools are complying with federal and state requirements as well as audit requirements.

FISCAL NOTE

Public schools would be eligible to receive an additional \$29 million dollars in federal fund reimbursement. These dollars will reduce the amount of public funds currently being used by public schools to provide services to Medicaid-eligible special-needs students. Federal funds related to school-based Medicaid are flow-through dollars. The federal flow-through dollars represent 70% of the costs and public schools are responsible for 30% of the costs associated with providing these services.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).