

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Experts believe that the effectiveness of a developmental guidance and counseling program is directly related to the counselor-to-student ratio within the program. The number of counselors needed to staff a student counseling program depends on the needs of the students and the school and on the goals and design of the program. Ratio recommendations vary widely. The American School Counselor Association recommends an ideal ratio of 1:100 and a maximum ratio of 1:300.

Section

- 1 **School guidance counselor.** Requires a school board to employ the number of school guidance counselors needed so that the school guidance counselor to student ratio does not exceed one to 250. This section is effective for the 2001-2002 school year and later.