

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 2293

DATE: March 8, 2012

Version: First Engrossment

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Subject: One-year extension of school districts' ability to use prone restraints under some conditions

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Overview

Allows school districts to use prone restraints under some conditions until August 2013.

Requires the education commissioner to collect and electronically publish data on districts' use of prone restraints on a quarterly basis.

- 1** **Definitions.** Amends the definition of "physical holding" to encompass where immobilization is used to control a child in order to protect the child or another person. Defines "prone restraint" as placing a child in a face down position.

Makes this section effective immediately.

- 2** **Physical holding or seclusion.** (a) Extends by one year, from August 2012 to August 2013, the ability of a school district to use prone restraints with children age 5 or older under some conditions. Requires the education department to collect data on districts' use of prone restraints and publish the data on the department Web site on a quarterly basis.

(b) Directs the department to develop a statewide plan by February 1, 2013, to reduce districts' use of restrictive procedures. Directs the department to convene interested stakeholders to develop the statewide plan and identify the need for technical assistance. Requires districts to report summary data to the department by July 1, 2012, on districts' use of restrictive procedures during the 2011-2012 school year.

Makes this section effective immediately.

- 3** **Prohibitions.** Prohibits physical holding that restricts or impairs a child's ability to communicate distress, places pressure or weight on parts of a child's body, or results in straddling a child's torso.

Makes this section effective immediately.