

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Subject:** School District Pupil Transportation Aid; Reporting Expenditures

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### Overview

The 1995 Legislature made substantial changes to the pupil transportation funding programs. Categorical funding programs were eliminated and replaced with an across-the-board increase in the general education formula allowance of \$170 per pupil unit, and a new, smaller category of general education aid called transportation sparsity aid. A portion of each school district's transportation costs of special education pupils transportation expenses are reimbursed under the special education aid formula.

A school district may provide pupil transportation services by operating its own fleet of school buses, contracting with a private vendor of transportation services, or mixing district-operated and contracted services.

Districts are required by state law to keep track of their pupil transportation expenditures. There are a number of ways these expenditures may be tracked and pupil transportation costs may be allocated in a variety of ways as well. The 2011 Legislature made some changes to the cost allocation methods, and eliminated the ability of districts to allocate pupil transportation expenditures on a cost-per-hour or cost-per-route basis. This bill reinstates these allocation methods.

- 1** **District reports.** Reinstates the ability for a school district to report pupil transportation expenditures on a cost-per-hour and cost-per-route basis.