

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE RESEARCH PROJECT

2006 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Lorie D. Fowlke

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill directs the state superintendent of public instruction, in cooperation with school districts and charter schools, to conduct research on school discipline.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ directs the state superintendent of public instruction, in cooperation with school districts and charter schools, to:
 - research methods of discipline that impose direct and immediate consequences on students who violate district or school conduct standards and that keep students in school; and
 - publish a report incorporating the research findings and making recommendations.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53A-11-906, as last amended by Chapter 318, Laws of Utah 1996



Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53A-11-906** is amended to read:

53A-11-906. Alternatives to suspension or expulsion.

(1) Each local school board shall establish:

(a) policies providing that prior to suspending or expelling a student for repeated acts of willful disobedience, defiance of authority, or disruptive behavior which are not of such a violent or extreme nature that immediate removal is required, good faith efforts shall be made to implement a remedial discipline plan that would allow the student to remain in school; and

(b) alternatives to suspension, including policies that allow a student to remain in school under an in-school suspension program or under a program allowing the parent or guardian, with the consent of the student's teacher or teachers, to attend class with the student for a period of time specified by a designated school official.

(2) If the parent or guardian does not agree or fails to attend class with the student, the student shall be suspended in accordance with the conduct and discipline policies of the district or the school.

(3) The parent or guardian of a suspended student and the designated school official may enlist the cooperation of the Division of Child and Family Services, the juvenile court, or other appropriate state agencies, if necessary, in dealing with the student's suspension.

(4) The state superintendent of public instruction, in cooperation with school districts and charter schools, shall:

(a) research methods of discipline that:

(i) impose immediate and direct consequences on students who fail to comply with district or school standards of conduct; and

(ii) keep the students in school;

(b) evaluate the benefits and costs of methods of discipline that meet the criteria specified in Subsection (4)(a); and

(c) publish a report that incorporates the research findings and makes recommendations for local school boards and school personnel.

Legislative Review Note

as of 1-26-06 2:15 PM

Based on a limited legal review, this legislation has not been determined to have a high probability of being held unconstitutional.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Fiscal Note
Bill Number HB0190

School Discipline Research Project*06-Feb-06**11:52 AM*

State Impact

It is anticipated that the study and reporting requirements established in this bill will cost approximately \$30,000 in one-time Uniform School Fund Revenue to be appropriated to the State Board of Education.

	<u>FY 2007</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2007</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Revenue</u>
Uniform School Fund, One-	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Individual and Business Impact

Research project participants may benefit financially through contracts associated with the study.

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst