

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of SSB 5155

Concerning suspension and expulsion of kindergarten and early elementary school students
(2017-2018 Legislative Sessions)

Evidence indicates that SSB 5155 has the potential to reduce instances of suspension and expulsion for students in kindergarten through second grade, which in turn has potential to improve educational outcomes, improve earning potential, and decrease health disparities.

BILL INFORMATION

Sponsors: Senators Billig, Saldaña, Lias, Rolfes, Frockt, Takko, Darneille, Wellman, Kuderer, Hasegawa

Summary of Bill:

- Prohibits public school districts from suspending or expelling students in kindergarten through second grade (K-2), except in the case of a violation of [RCW 28A.600.420](#) (firearms on school premises, transportation, or facilities).
- Encourages school districts to implement evidence-based preventative, restorative, or other practices that support students in meeting behavioral expectations and to train staff to implement those practices.

HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence regarding the provisions in SSB 5155:

- A fair amount of evidence that prohibiting the use of suspensions and expulsions for students in grades K-2 would likely reduce instances of suspension and expulsion among these students.
- Strong evidence that reducing suspensions and expulsions for students in grades K-2 would likely improve educational outcomes.
- Very strong evidence that improving educational outcomes would likely improve educational attainment.
- Very strong evidence that improving educational attainment would likely improve earning potential.
- Very strong evidence that improving educational attainment would likely improve health outcomes.
- Very strong evidence that improving earning potential would likely improve health outcomes.
- Very strong evidence that improving health outcomes for students affected by suspensions and expulsions would likely decrease health disparities for students of color; students on free or reduced-price lunch; students with disabilities and those receiving special education services; and students experiencing homelessness.

FULL REVIEW

For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full Health Impact Review at

<http://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/HIR-2018-10-SSB5155.pdf>

For more information contact:
(360)-236-4109 | hir@sboh.wa.gov
or go to sboh.wa.gov