

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill Number: SB 280

51st Legislature, 2nd Session, 2014

Tracking Number: .196362.1

Short Title: Intellectual Disability Student Friendships

Sponsor(s): Senator Howie C. Morales

Analyst: James Ball

Date: February 13, 2014

Bill Summary:

SB 280 makes an appropriation to enhance programs in middle and high schools directed at fostering one-to-one friendships between students with and students without intellectual and developmental disabilities and promoting inclusion in school climates.

Fiscal Impact:

\$100,000 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Public Education Department (PED) for expenditure in FY 15. Unexpended or unencumbered funds do not revert to the General Fund.

Substantive Issues:

According to the Department of Health, SB 280 would enhance inclusion and promote all important social relationships for middle school and high school students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. A key concept in special education, inclusion represents a belief that students with disabilities belong in regular school programs with appropriate services to support the effort.

Committee Referrals:

SCC/SEC/SFC

Related Bills:

None as of February 13, 2014.