

HB 1420 -- UNACCREDITED DISTRICT TUITION AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS

SPONSOR: Parkinson

This bill creates a procedure for selecting the school districts to which an unaccredited district will provide transportation of students who choose to transfer out of the district. The board of education of an unaccredited district must hold at least three open meetings to discuss transportation issues and then name five accredited school districts as possible receiving districts. The State Auditor must conduct an audit of each district's basic statistics, as defined in the bill, and issue a report for the State Board of Education within the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to review and then approve or deny each district as a potential receiving district. If a district is denied, the unaccredited district must repeat the selection process until there are five candidate districts. When five districts have been approved, the unaccredited district must hold a meeting at which the students' parents can vote for the district they prefer. The two districts with the most votes will be the districts to which the unaccredited district will provide transportation.

If one or both of the school districts selected are not located in the same county as the unaccredited district and districts within the county were included on the list of five potential receiving districts, the unaccredited district must pay one and one-half times the cost of tuition.

The bill contains an emergency clause.