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## OLR Bill Analysis

### HB 7123

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING MILITARY FAMILIES AND EDUCATION POLICIES REGARDING ENROLLMENT FOR PURPOSES OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND PLACEMENT STABILITY.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires local and regional school boards to take steps to ensure a minimally disruptive transition of a military-connected student who (1) enrolls at a school after the school year begins and (2) has an individualized education plan (IEP) or 504 plan from a prior school (see BACKGROUND). This applies when the student enrolls due to an armed forces member's military orders or other document directing the person to the state. For these students, the bill requires districts to (1) transfer records and evaluations, (2) perform a reevaluation within 30 days of the child's enrollment, and (3) hold any meetings.

Under the bill, a child of an armed service member is permitted to remain enrolled in a school when the service member relocates on orders, while the member remains a member of the armed forces.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Individualized Education Plans***

Federal regulations require an IEP to include (1) measurable annual goals and how the child's progress toward the goals will be measured; (2) special education and related services the child will receive; and (3) supplementary aids and services the child will receive, which are supports provided in regular education classes and nonacademic settings (34 C.F.R. § 300.320(a)(4)). The included services must be based on peer reviewed research to the extent practicable and be designed to help the child progress toward his or her annual goals, be involved and make progress in the general education curriculum, participate in

extracurricular and nonacademic activities, and be educated with other children with and without disabilities.

**504 Plans**

Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 protects students with mental or physical disabilities from discrimination in public schools (29 U.S.C. § 794). Students who receive school accommodations under this law have them memorialized in a written plan, commonly known as “504 plans.”

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Veterans’ and Military Affairs Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea    20    Nay   0    (03/11/2025)