

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2023 and 2024 SB1434

Introduced 2/7/2023, by Sen. Sara Feigenholtz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/14-7.05

Amends the School Code. Provides that any residential facility that is on the approval list of another State agency or that contracts with another State agency shall be considered approved on the State Board of Education's approved residential facility list.

LRB103 28801 RJT 55186 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section 5 14-7.05 as follows:
- 6 (105 ILCS 5/14-7.05)

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Sec. 14-7.05. Placement in residential facility; payment of educational costs. For any student with a disability in a residential facility placement made or paid for by an Illinois public State agency or made by any court in this State, the school district of residence as determined pursuant to this Article is responsible for the costs of educating the child and shall be reimbursed for those costs in accordance with this Code. Subject to this Section and relevant State district's financial appropriation, the resident responsibility and reimbursement must be calculated in accordance with the provisions of Section 14-7.02 of this Code. In those instances in which a district receives a block grant pursuant to Article 1D of this Code, the district's financial responsibility is limited to the actual educational costs of the placement, which must be paid by the district from its block grant appropriation. Resident district financial responsibility and reimbursement applies for both residential

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facilities that are approved by the State Board of Education and non-approved facilities, subject to the requirements of this Section. The Illinois placing agency or court remains responsible for funding the residential portion of the placement and for notifying the resident district prior to the placement, except in emergency situations. The residential facility in which the student is placed shall notify the resident district of the student's enrollment as soon as practicable after the placement. Failure of the placing agency or court to notify the resident district prior to the placement does not absolve the resident district of financial responsibility for the educational costs of the placement; however, the resident district shall not become financially responsible unless and until it receives written notice of the placement by either the placing agency, court, or residential facility. The placing agency or parent shall request an individualized education program (IEP) meeting from the resident district if the placement would entail additional educational services beyond the student's current IEP. The district of residence shall retain control of the IEP process, and any changes to the IEP must be done in compliance with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Prior to the placement of a child in an out-of-state special education residential facility, the placing agency or court must refer to the child or the child's parent or guardian the option to place the child in a special education

residential facility located within this State, if any, that provides treatment and services comparable to those provided by the out-of-state special education residential facility. The placing agency or court must review annually the placement of a child in an out-of-state special education residential facility. As a part of the review, the placing agency or court must refer to the child or the child's parent or guardian the option to place the child in a comparable special education residential facility located within this State, if any.

Payments shall be made by the resident district to the entity providing the educational services, whether the entity is the residential facility or the school district wherein the facility is located, no less than once per quarter unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties.

A residential facility providing educational services within the facility, but not approved by the State Board of Education, is required to demonstrate proof to the State Board of (i) appropriate licensure of teachers for the student population, (ii) age-appropriate curriculum, (iii) enrollment and attendance data, and (iv) the ability to implement the child's IEP. A school district is under no obligation to pay such a residential facility unless and until such proof is provided to the State Board's satisfaction.

Any residential facility that is on the approval list of another State agency or that contracts with another State agency shall be considered approved on the State Board of

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Education's approved residential facility list.

2 When a dispute arises over the determination of the 3 district of residence under this Section, any person or entity, including without limitation a school district or 5 residential facility, may make a written request for a 6 residency decision to the State Superintendent of Education, 7 who, upon review of materials submitted and any other items of information he or she may request for submission, shall issue 8 9 his or her decision in writing. The decision of the State 10 Superintendent of Education is final.

11 (Source: P.A. 102-254, eff. 8-6-21; 102-894, eff. 5-20-22.)