HB 2703   STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

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Sub-Referral To:	Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Meeting Dates:	3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals statutory language limiting collective bargaining of class size and caseload limits to Title I schools.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act (PECBA), enacted in 1973, codifies the laws governing employment relations between public employers and employees in the state, counties, cities, school districts, transportation districts, and other local governments, as well as private employers not subject to the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board. Under PECBA, both the public employer and the labor organization are required to collectively bargain in good faith with respect to employment relations, which are defined as including, but not limited to, matters concerning direct or indirect monetary benefits, hours, vacations, sick leave, grievance procedures, and other conditions of employment. Subjects that are included within employment relations are mandatory subjects of bargaining. Other subjects may be bargained as long as there is mutual agreement to discuss these permissive subjects of bargaining.

Between 1989 and 1995, class size was a mandatory subject of bargaining. Before 1989, and between 1995 and 2021, the topic was a permissive subject of bargaining. Senate Bill 580 (2021) made class size and caseload limits mandatory subjects of bargaining only in schools that qualify for assistance under Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. For all other schools, the topic of class size is still a permissive subject of bargaining.

House Bill 2703 expands mandatory collective bargaining of class size and caseload limits from Title I schools to all public schools.