

## HB 2638 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Education

---

**Prepared By:** Ellen O'Brien, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 3/6

---

#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires district school boards to ensure that buildings regularly used by students have proper heating, air conditioning, and ventilation systems to provide temperatures within acceptable range. Requires State Board of Education to identify acceptable range of temperatures in rule. Requires district school boards to comply with requirement by January 1, 2029.

*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:

In 2022, the [Connecticut General Assembly](#) introduced [Senate Bill 423: An Act Improving Indoor Air Quality in Public School Classrooms](#), which would have required the Connecticut Labor Department to establish a mandatory public school temperature range. A 2016 report prepared by [Connecticut's Office of Legislative Research](#) found that several states, including at least Hawaii, Mississippi, Indiana, and Washington, address classroom temperatures in statute or rule. Since 2011, [410 Indiana Administrative Code 33-4-4](#) has required that heating systems maintain a temperature of at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit in instructional rooms, offices, cafeterias, and locker rooms while occupied by students, and that air conditioning, where provided, maintain a temperature of 78 degrees Fahrenheit or less. [Washington Administrative Code 246-366-090](#) requires Washington school heating systems to maintain a temperature of at least 65 degrees Fahrenheit during school hours in all facilities except gymnasiums, which have a minimum temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit; however, Washington does not regulate excess heat in schools. In addition, [Texas Administrative Code Title 25 §297.8](#) requires that the room temperature for a typical occupied office or classroom be kept between 72 and 76 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer and 70 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter.

House Bill 2638 requires school districts to ensure that school buildings have heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems that keep temperatures within an acceptable range for learning and safety.