



SF 2137 – School Bus Route Times (LSB5049SV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

[Senate File 2137](#) authorizes local school districts to extend one-way ride times for elementary and high school students beyond the limitations currently in statute under specific circumstances.

Background

Currently, 281 IAC [43.1](#)(3) restricts one-way ride times to 60 minutes for elementary students and 75 minutes for high school students. The restrictions result in some districts needing to run additional routes.

The elimination of a single bus route may result in savings related to staff, equipment, and fuel. The average cost per route mile in FY 2017 was \$3.67. The average cost for a full-time nonadministrative transportation employee in FY 2017 was \$33,200 for salary and benefits. The average cost of a school bus is approximately \$100,000.

Fiscal Impact

There is potential for significant cost savings for local school districts that will be able to structure bus routes more efficiently as a result of [SF 2137](#). It is unknown how many districts will be able to do so or to what extent.

One example of potential cost savings is Greene County Community School District. The district estimates that the Bill would allow the elimination of two bus routes for a savings of \$100,000 annually.

Sources

Department of Education
Iowa Association of School Boards

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
