



CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR

ROGER NIELLO

REPRESENTING THE 6TH DISTRICT

SB 1082 – Interdistrict Transfers Streamlining Act

SUMMARY

Senate Bill 1082 streamlines the interdistrict transfer (IDT) process by clarifying review timelines, allowing school districts to conduct concurrent reviews, and providing flexibility in how exit requests are processed. The bill enables districts of residence to waive review and approve an exit request when no response is issued within 30 days and allows districts of desired attendance to begin reviewing requests immediately. Together, these changes ensure families receive timely decisions while reducing the administrative burden for school districts and county boards of education.

BACKGROUND

California law allows families to request interdistrict transfers when another school district may better meet a student's educational needs. While statute establishes timelines for district responses, it does not specify what occurs when districts fail to act within those timelines, resulting in inconsistent practices across the state.

In practice, families often experience lengthy delays - sometimes 60 to 90 days or longer - before receiving a response from the district of residence. During this time, districts of desired attendance frequently wait to begin their own review until a release decision is issued. These delays are rarely intentional and often reflect administrative workload and capacity constraints. However, the impact on families can be significant, leaving them unable to make timely educational decisions and increasing the likelihood of appeals to county boards of education.

SB 1082 builds on existing law by clarifying expectations and ensuring that inaction does not function as an unintended denial.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

SB 1082 improves the efficiency and transparency of the interdistrict transfer process by streamlining existing procedures and clarifying timelines:

- **Waived review and approval:** Allows a district of residence to waive review and approve an interdistrict transfer request if no response is issued within 30 calendar days.
- **Concurrent review:** Districts of desired attendance may begin reviewing requests upon receipt, rather than waiting for a release decision, helping reduce delays for families.
- **Administrative flexibility:** Districts of residence may adopt policies that broadly allow releases, reducing the need to process requests individually. Districts of desired attendance may issue provisional acceptances when enrollment capacity is uncertain.
- **Clear public information:** Districts are required to post timelines, criteria, and appeal processes online so families understand what to expect.

This proposal does not change eligibility requirements or redefine the interdistrict transfer process. Instead, it streamlines what already exists, reduces unnecessary administrative burden, and ensures families receive timely and predictable responses.

CONTACT

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