

HB 1182: Public and Nonpublic Schools - Student Elopement - Locative Devices:
Please vote to **SUPPORT** this bill.

Dear Ways & Means Committee:

I am writing to respectfully **support HB 1182**, concerning *Public and Nonpublic Schools – Student Elopement – Locative Devices*.

Student elopement—when a child leaves a supervised, safe environment without notice—poses a serious safety risk, particularly for students with disabilities such as autism or other developmental conditions. In some cases, **elopement can lead to life-threatening situations involving traffic, bodies of water, or other environmental hazards. Schools must be equipped with practical tools to help protect vulnerable students.**

HB 1182 provides a structured framework for the appropriate use of locative devices when requested by parents or guardians and when deemed necessary for student safety. **Allowing families and schools to work collaboratively to implement safeguards can provide peace of mind while ensuring that students remain protected during the school day.**

Importantly, the use of such devices should be guided by clear policies, parental consent, and privacy protections. When implemented responsibly, locative technology can serve as an additional layer of safety—not as a disciplinary measure, but as a proactive step to prevent emergencies.

Students who are at risk of elopement deserve thoughtful, individualized safety planning. This legislation recognizes the real concerns families face and offers a reasonable solution that prioritizes student welfare.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **support HB 1182**.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,

Trudy Tibbals