

HB 959 -- HABITUAL ABSENCES

SPONSOR: Cookson

This bill defines "habitual absence" as a child who has been counted absent without excuse for more than 10% of the total scheduled school days for a school term. A parent, guardian, or other person having charge, control, or custody of a child, who permits that child to be habitually absent may have his or her public benefits revoked. Under these provisions, a "public benefit" means any grant, contract, or loan provided by an agency of state or local government; or any retirement, welfare, health, postsecondary education, state grants and scholarships, disability, housing, or food assistance benefit under which payments, assistance, credits, or reduced rates or fees are provided. The term "public benefit" will not include unemployment benefits.