

# HB5173



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

HB5173

by Rep. Joyce Mason

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a

from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.9a

Amends the School Code. Prohibits a school district from withholding a student's grades, transcripts, or diploma because of an unpaid balance on the student's school account. Effective immediately.

LRB101 17255 CMG 66659 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES  
ACT MAY REQUIRE  
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section  
5 10-20.9a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.9a) (from Ch. 122, par. 10-20.9a)  
7 Sec. 10-20.9a. Final grade; promotion.

8 (a) Teachers shall administer the approved marking system  
9 or other approved means of evaluating pupil progress. The  
10 teacher shall maintain the responsibility and right to  
11 determine grades and other evaluations of students within the  
12 grading policies of the district based upon his or her  
13 professional judgment of available criteria pertinent to any  
14 given subject area or activity for which he or she is  
15 responsible. District policy shall provide the procedure and  
16 reasons by and for which a grade may be changed; provided that  
17 no grade or evaluation shall be changed without notification to  
18 the teacher concerning the nature and reasons for such change.  
19 If such a change is made, the person making the change shall  
20 assume such responsibility for determining the grade or  
21 evaluation, and shall initial such change.

22 (b) School districts shall not promote students to the next  
23 higher grade level based upon age or any other social reasons

1 not related to the academic performance of the students. On or  
2 before September 1, 1998, school boards shall adopt and enforce  
3 a policy on promotion as they deem necessary to ensure that  
4 students meet local goals and objectives and can perform at the  
5 expected grade level prior to promotion. Decisions to promote  
6 or retain students in any classes shall be based on successful  
7 completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance based on  
8 the assessments required under Section 2-3.64a-5 of this Code,  
9 the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, or other testing or any other  
10 criteria established by the school board. Students determined  
11 by the local district to not qualify for promotion to the next  
12 higher grade shall be provided remedial assistance, which may  
13 include, but shall not be limited to, a summer bridge program  
14 of no less than 90 hours, tutorial sessions, increased or  
15 concentrated instructional time, modifications to  
16 instructional materials, and retention in grade.

17 (c) No school district shall withhold a student's grades,  
18 transcripts, or diploma because of an unpaid balance on the  
19 student's school account.

20 (Source: P.A. 98-972, eff. 8-15-14.)

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
22 becoming law.