Bill Summary

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 1425
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Author: Sen. Rader
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Bill Analysis

HB 1425 defines "released time course" as a period of time during which a student is excused from school to attend a course in religious taught by an independent entity off school property. It requires school district boards of education to adopt a policy that excuses a student from school to attend a released time course for up to three class periods per week, not to exceed 125 class periods per school year, under certain conditions, including if the student's parent or legal guardian provides written consent and no school funds or personnel are used to provide the instruction. It directs a student to be considered in attendance in the district while in a released time course. The measure directs school district boards of education to award elective credit for work completed in a released time course after evaluation of the course. It provides an exemption for charter schools and virtual charter schools.

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