OVERVIEW AND ANALYSIS: Section 7.71 of S.L. 2021-180 requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to use $500,000 in nonrecurring funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year to contract with the Children and Parent Resource Group, Inc., to design, implement, and evaluate the Life Changing Experiences School Program (Project) in the 2021-2022 school year. The Project must be operated and administered for students in grades six through 11 in at least the following local school administrative units (LEAs): Cleveland County Schools, Greene County Schools, Lenoir County Public Schools, Lincoln County Schools, McDowell County Schools, Mitchell County Schools, and Pitt County Schools. DPI may select additional LEAs to participate in the Project if there are available funds.

The Children and Parent Resource Group, Inc., in consultation with DPI, must submit a report on the Project by March 1, 2022, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and various other entities. The report must include an accounting of expenditures and student outcome data related to the operation of the Project.

This section became effective July 1, 2021.