

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0738-01
Bill No.: SB 243
Subject: Education, Elementary and Secondary; St Louis City
Type: Original
Date: February 27, 2007

Bill Summary: Increases the compulsory attendance age for all children in Missouri to seventeen years of age.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).
- Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** assume the increased state cost is unknown. Increasing the compulsory attendance age may increase the average daily attendance of districts. Basic state aid is paid, in part, on average daily attendance. As average daily attendance increases, the state cost increases.

Oversight assumes most students age seventeen are attending school and any average daily attendance increases would be minimal.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services - Division of Youth Services (DYS)** report that according to Kids Count Missouri, the annual school dropout rate in 2004 was 3.4%, or approximately 9,077 dropouts. This represents a continued decrease since peaking at 7.2% in 1995. According to the 2005 Juvenile Court Statistics Report, there were 3,730 referrals for truancy made to the juvenile courts involving youth under the age of 16 years. However, only 7 youth under the age of 16 were committed to DYS for truancy.

At any point in time, approximately 275 youth, age 16, are receiving aftercare services in the community. The division would be required to enforce school attendance for those youth. The division estimates that approximately 30 of those youth would participate in DYS day treatment programs rather than attend public schools.

The division expects to be able to absorb the 30 additional students requiring day treatment services using existing resources.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services - Children's Division** assume this proposal will require additional staff due to the additional reports that can be expected. The estimated number of 16 year olds that could be subject to educational neglect is based on the number of calls we currently receive on 15 year olds.

Increased Child Abuse/Neglect Investigations

The Division received 54,624 total reports to the Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline in FY 05. Of those reports, 22,177 were handled as investigations of which 6,578 were substantiated. Of the substantiated reports, educational neglect was found in 2% of the reports which would equal 132 substantiations for educational neglect. Approximately 30% of all investigations are substantiated. Based on this information, the number of investigations due to educational neglect reports should be 445. Fifteen year old children make up 7% of all victims in substantiated

ASSUMPTION (continued)

cases. In FY 05, 163 children were found to be victims of educational neglect, so approximately 11 children who were 15 year old were found to be substantiated victims of educational neglect. Based on the above information, if 11 children in this age group were found to be victims of educational neglect, then approximately 37 children age 15 were investigated in FY 05. The Division assumes the same number of 16 year olds would be reported and handled as investigations for educational neglect, therefore 37 additional CA/N reports would be investigated and 11 substantiated for 16 year olds.

Increased Family Assessments due to Educational Neglect

Using FY 05 data, the Division received 31,901 reports to the Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline that were handled as family assessments (F/A). Of all reports received, 9,840 F/A's found that CD services were either needed or services with an outside agency was linked through the help of the CD. Children age 15 made up 2% of the children in F/A's where services were needed or linked, which equals 1,040 children. Using the above data, we can assume approximately 638 F/A's reports were for 15 year old children. If we assume 20% of all F/A's were for educational neglect we can assume 127 F/A's were for educational neglect for 15 year old children. With the above data, the Division would assume the same number of 16 year olds would be reported and handled as family assessments for educational neglect, therefore 638 additional F/A reports would be received and 127 would be for educational neglect.

Increased Cases Opened

In FY 05, there were 9,702 Family Centered Service cases opened as a result of F/A's. If we assume 20% of these were opened for educational neglect, then 1,940 FCS cases would have been opened for educational neglect. If we assume 15 year olds were involved in 2% of the cases approximately 39 cases would have been opened for children 15 years of age and their families as a result of F/A's.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Summary

Using the above data, we can assume that approximately 11 additional cases would be opened as a result CA/N investigations and 39 additional cases would be opened as a result of F/A's due to passage of this bill. Therefore, 50 additional cases would be opened. There will be a need for additional 3.5 FTE to cover the additional cases, investigations and assessments. The following represents the breakdown of worker need:

Service	FTE
37 CA/N Reports (15 reports per worker per month):	.21
127 Assessments (15 assessments per worker per month):	.71
39 FCS Cases (20 cases per worker):	1.95
11 LS1 Cases (18 cases per worker):	<u>.61</u>
Total Worker Need:	3.48

Oversight assumes that the caseload involving sixteen year olds due to educational neglect would be minimal. If the caseload does increase to the point of requiring additional staff, funding can be requested through the budget process.

Officials from the **Fair Grove School District** indicate there would be very little fiscal impact to their district.

Officials from the **Francis Howell School District** do not see a fiscal impact due to the proposed legislation since most of their students already attend school beyond their seventeenth birthday.

Section 167.034 deals specifically with the St Louis School District. **Officials from the St Louis School District did not respond to a request for fiscal note.**

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2008 (10 Mo.)	FY 2009	FY 2010
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2008 (10 Mo.)	FY 2009	FY 2010
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no fiscal impact.

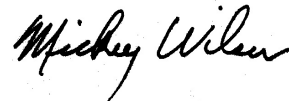
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Department of Social Services
 Children's Division
 Division of Youth Services
School Districts
 Fair Grove
 Francis Howell

NOT RESPONDING

St Louis School District



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
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