

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 6289-01
Bill No.: SB 998
Subject: Education, Elementary and Secondary; Elementary and Secondary Education Department
Type: Original
Date: February 23, 2016

Bill Summary: This proposal, subject to appropriations, requires Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to subsidize the exam fee of those taking the high school equivalency degree exam for the first time.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
General Revenue	(\$1,465,257)	(\$1,433,253)	(\$1,433,459)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$1,465,257)	(\$1,433,253)	(\$1,433,459)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Oversight was unable to receive some of the agency responses in a timely manner due to the short fiscal note request time. Oversight has presented this fiscal note on the best current information that we have or on prior year information regarding a similar bill. Upon the receipt of agency responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval of the chairperson of the Joint Committee on Legislative Research to publish a new fiscal note.

Oversight notes this proposal assumes, subject to appropriations, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) shall subsidize the high school equivalency exam fees for first time students.

In response to similar legislation filed this year, HB 2238, officials at **DESE** estimated 15,000 test takers x \$95 (test fee) = \$1.425 million for first time test takers.

In response to similar legislation filed this year, HB 2238, officials at the **Office of Administration's Information Technology Services Division (ITSD)** assumed this would require two new screens and modification to two existing screens and a new report. Estimations include project management and development of the new application. ITSD assumes this would take 497 hours at the \$75 hourly rate for a cost of \$40,257 in FY 2017.

DESE assumed they would require one FTE data specialist (at \$34,704 annually) to maintain the data in the system.

Oversight assumes that DESE would be able to absorb the duties of the FTE with existing resources. Once it is determined the amount of the appropriation and what type of computer tracking software is necessary to handle this proposal then if DESE determines that additional FTE are necessary they could seek that FTE through the appropriation process.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	FY 2018	FY 2019
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost</u> - DESE payment of exam fee	(\$1,425,000)	(\$1,425,000)	(\$1,425,000)
<u>Cost</u> - DESE computer upgrades	<u>(\$40,257)</u>	<u>(\$8,253)</u>	<u>(\$8,459)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>(\$1,465,257)</u>	<u>(\$1,433,253)</u>	<u>(\$1,433,459)</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	FY 2018	FY 2019
	<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

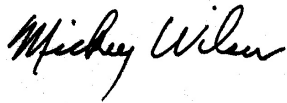
Subject to appropriations, this act requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to subsidize the exam fee for those taking the high school equivalency degree exam for the first time.

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

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Administration's Information Technology Services Division



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
February 23, 2016

Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
February 23, 2016