

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 4760-03  
Bill No.: HCS for SB 681  
Subject: Elementary and Secondary Education; Disabilities  
Type: Original  
Date: April 6, 2018

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Bill Summary: This proposal requires a student to receive instruction in Braille reading and writing as part of his or her individualized education plan unless instruction in Braille is determined not appropriate for the child.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

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

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor)</b>	<b>(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor)</b>	<b>(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor)</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization.

In response to a previous version, SB 681 (LR 4760-03), officials from the **Summersville R2 School District** assumed there is no way of determining the impact. Braille instruction would be expensive for districts, even with small numbers of students receiving this instruction.

In response to a previous version, SB 681 (LR 4760-03), officials from the **West Plains School District** assumed the cost related to employing a Braille specialist is \$20,000 to \$70,000 annually.

In response to a previous version, SB 681 (LR 4760-03), officials from the **Kirksville R-III School District** assumed the proposal would have a negative fiscal impact on the district.

In response to a previous version, SB 681 (LR 4760-03), officials from the **Bakersfield R-IV School District** assumed the estimated cost for the district would be approximately \$150,000 per year.

**Oversight** notes, in previous years, DESE estimated the salary for a Braille instructor at \$60,000 plus \$34,200 [57% (school district benefit percentage)] for a total of \$94,200.

**Oversight** notes there are 518 school districts in the state that may be impacted by this proposal. DESE was unable to provide Oversight with the number of Braille instructors currently working in the school districts. However, they were able to say that in the 2016-2017 school year 42 school districts provided a course for visual instruction. If half of the 518 school districts needed a Braille instructor, the cost to the school districts is estimated at \$25,900,000 (259 \* \$100,000). Oversight cannot estimate the number school district that would need a Braille instructor as a result of this proposal. Oversight will show the impact of this proposal as unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials at the following school districts: Arcadia Valley R-2, Avilla R-13, Belton, Benton County R-2, Bismark R-5, Bloomfield R-14, Blue Springs, Bolivar R-I, Bowling Green R-1, Branson, Brentwood, Bronaugh R-7, Campbell R-2, Carrollton R-7, Caruthersville, Central R-III, Chilhowee R-4, Chillicothe R-II, Clarkton C-4, Cole R-I, Columbia, Concordia R-2, Crawford County R-1, Crocker R-II, Delta C-7, East Carter R-2, Eldon R-I, Everton R-III, Fair Play, Fayette R-3, Forsyth R-3, Fox C-6, Fredericktown R-I, Fulton, Grain Valley, Hancock Place, Hannibal, Harrisonburg R-8, Harrisonville, Hillsboro R-3, Hollister R-5, Humansville R-4, Hurley R-1, Independence, Jefferson City, Kansas City Public Schools, Kearney R-1, Kennett #39, King City R-1, Kingston 42, Kirbyville R-VI, Lee Summit, Leeton R-10, Lewis County C-1, Lincoln R-II, Lindbergh, Lonedell R-14, Macon County R-1, Malta Bend, Mehville, Meramec Valley R-3, Mexico, Middle Grove C-1, Midway R-1, Milan C-2, Moberly, Monroe City R-I, Morgan County R-2, New Haven, Nixa, North Kansas City, North St. Francois Co. R-1, Northeast Nodaway R-5, Odessa R-VII, Oregon-Howell R-III, Orrick R-11, Osborn R-0, Parkway, Pattonville, Pettis County R-12, Pierce City, Plato R-5, Princeton R-5, Raymore-Peculiar R-III, Raytown, Reeds Springs R-IV, Renick R-5, Republic R-III, Richards R-V, Richland R-1, Richmond R-XVI, Riverview Gardens, Salisbury R-4, Sarcoxie R-2, Scotland County R-I, Sedalia, Seymour R-2, Shell Knob #78, Sikeston, Silex, Smithville R-2, Special School District of St. Louis County, Spickard R-II, Springfield, St Joseph, St Louis, St. Charles, St. Elizabeth R-4, Sullivan, Valley R-6, Verona R-7, Warren County R-3, Warrensburg R-6, Waynesville, Webster Groves, Wentzville, Westview C-6 and the Wright City R-2 school districts did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS</b>			
<u>Cost</u> - School Districts - hiring a Braille instructor	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u> )	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u> )	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u> )
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS</b>	<b>(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)</b>	<b>(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)</b>	<b>(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)</b>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This act requires a student to receive instruction in Braille reading and writing as part of his or her individualized education plan (IEP) unless instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is determined not appropriate for the child. This act modifies the definition of "student".

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  
 Summersville R2 School District  
 West Plains School District

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION (continued)

Kirksville R-III School District  
Bakersfield R-IV School District

Ross Strope

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross Strope", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Acting Director  
April 6, 2018