

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. NO.: 2854-01
BILL NO.: HB 1191
SUBJECT: Education, Elementary and Secondary: Psychiatric Evaluations
TYPE: Original
DATE: February 23, 2000

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Local Government	(\$5,300,000 to \$10,600,000)	(\$5,300,000 to \$10,600,000)	(\$5,300,000 to \$10,600,000)

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 3 pages.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Mental Health** and **Department of Social Services - Division of Youth Services** assume the proposal would result in no fiscal impact to the agency.

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** state the Special Education Division of DESE reports that for the upcoming year, approximately 9,000 evaluations and 44,000 reevaluations will take place. This is a total of 53,000 evaluations and reevaluations.

Currently, almost all of these evaluations and re-evaluations are done by School Psychological Examiners (a DESE certification) and counselors.

Requiring that all evaluations be done by state-licensed psychiatrists and psychologists, or a school psychologist certified under the standards of the National Association of School Psychologists would increase the cost for each evaluation by \$100 to \$200.

\$100 x 53,000 evaluations = \$5.3 million
 \$200 x 53,000 evaluations = \$10.6 million

School districts would be required to fund this impact. They would likely have a variety of funding source options (federal, state or local revenues). It would be more a question of reallocation of existing funding streams.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

<u>Cost-School Districts</u>			
Administration of Testing	(\$5,300,000 to <u>\$10,600,000</u>)	(\$5,300,000 to <u>\$10,600,000</u>)	(\$5,300,000 to <u>\$10,600,000</u>)

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FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

DESCRIPTION

All instructional material used in connection with any research or experimental program or project would be available for inspection by any parent or guardian engaged in the program.

The proposed legislation would prohibit children from being required to submit to psychological testing in the public schools without prior consent. It would require that student psychological testing be performed by a psychiatrist, licensed psychologist or a nationally certified school psychologist.

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 Mental Health
Department of Social Services



Jeanne Jarrett, CPA
Director
February 23, 2000