

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0647-01
Bill No.: HB 263
Subject: Education, Elementary and Secondary: Psychiatric Evaluations
Type: Original
Date: January 15, 2001

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
School Districts	(\$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 their agencies.

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 have a variety of funding source options (federal, state or local revenues). Districts might be able to reallocate existing funding streams.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2002 (10 Mo.)	FY 2003	FY 2004
	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2002 (10 Mo.)	FY 2003	FY 2004
SCHOOL DISTRICTS			
<u>Costs - Administration of Testing</u>	<u>(\$5,300,000 to \$10,600,000)</u>	<u>(\$5,300,000 to \$10,600,000)</u>	<u>(\$5,300,000 to \$10,600,000)</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

DESCRIPTION

This proposal would require that all instructional material used in connection with any research or experimental program or project would be available for inspection by any parent or guardian of a child engaged in the program.

It would also prohibit children from being required to submit to psychological testing in the public schools without prior consent if the primary purpose of the testing is to reveal certain information. 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. The proposal would not affect Total State Revenue.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Department of Mental Health
Department of Social Services



Jeanne Jarrett, CPA
Director
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