



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 684** HLS 25RS 2149
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action: **w/ SEN COMM AMD**
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.: HB 237

Date: May 29, 2025	5:24 PM	Author: MACK
Dept./Agy.: Education		
Subject: Safe learning environments		Analyst: Julie Silva

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 RE1 NO IMPACT See Note
 Provides relative to the use of seclusion and physical restraint to address the behavior of students with exceptionalities

Proposed legislation: (1) updates guidelines and the provision of guidance by LDOE concerning the use of physical restraint and seclusion of students with exceptionalities; (2) defines "seclusion rooms" and "sensory rooms" and requires the number of such rooms be included in annual reporting to a school's special education advisory council; (3) defines "crisis intervention" and authorizes LDOE to develop a "crisis intervention training program" focusing on the prevention of use of physical restraint on students, maintaining safety when physical restraint is being used, and conflict prevention and de-escalation techniques; (4) if a program is developed, requires certain public school designees to complete the training, which is to be provided at no cost to each public school governing authority; (5) requires each self-contained classroom or other setting in which a majority of students in regular attendance are provided special education services to have a camera; and (6) requires teacher education programs at Louisiana public postsecondary institutions to include completion of a crisis intervention training program, incorporated into an existing course of study and requires applicants for certification as a teacher complete a program created or approved by LDOE.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
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Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. Proposed legislation requires LDOE to create or approve a crisis intervention training program that can be completed by applicants for teacher certification. LDOE reports this training program will be funded using existing Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) set-aside funds and will be made available to school systems and to higher education institutions. *Note: The IDEA provides grants to assist states in meeting the excess costs of providing special education and related services to children with disabilities. These funds are reserved for a variety of specified activities such as support and direct services, technical assistance and personnel preparation, monitoring and mediation, and improving the use of technology in the classroom.*

LDOE provides higher education institutions can use this training to incorporate into an existing course or courses to meet proposed law requirements concerning mandatory instruction in teacher education programs. This is expected to mitigate any increase in expenditures higher education institutions may have realized if they were required to develop or approve their own training program. Public universities with teacher preparation programs may realize a nominal increase in workload to incorporate crisis intervention instruction into an existing course of study. In previous situations, the LFO has not anticipated costs associated with adding an instruction requirement to existing courses to be significant, and due to requirements concerning training program development being borne by LDOE, an increase in expenditures for postsecondary education institutions is not anticipated as a result of proposed legislation. Additionally, local school systems will have this training program available to them for training teachers and administrators who work with special education students. Depending on the training guidelines determined by BESE, local school system employees who work with special education students may realize an increase in training time as a result of proposed legislation. LDOE reports this training can be incorporated into existing teacher training requirements.


Changes to requirements concerning the placement of cameras in special education classrooms is not expected to increase expenditures as the legislature appropriated \$8 M in one-time funding to LDOE in FY 23 due to Act 546 of the 2021 RS which required cameras to be placed in special education classrooms, when requested by a parent or legal guardian. At that time, the cost for installation of cameras in all special education classrooms statewide was estimated to total \$8 M (\$5,000 per classroom for 1,600 special education classrooms). As of December 2024, only \$2.2 M of this appropriation has been expended and 988 cameras have been installed statewide. The balance of \$6.2 M remains available for installation of cameras. *Note: Some classrooms, depending on size and configuration, require as many as 4 cameras.* Assuming the above estimates are still applicable, local school systems should already have the funding necessary to implement this requirement of proposed legislation.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate Dual Referral Rules
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer