



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 124** SLS 22RS 340
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 19, 2022	1:10 PM	Author: ABRAHAM
Dept./Agy.: Education		
Subject: School Enrollment Reporting Requirements		Analyst: Garrett Ordner

SCHOOLS OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2

Requires the state Department of Education to provide student attendance data of certain students to local school governing authorities. (gov siq)

Proposed legislation requires the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) to report to public school governing authorities, for each student enrolled in an approved home study program or a nonpublic school not seeking state approval, the student's legal name, date of birth, and physical address, as well as the name of the last public school attended and the grade in which the student was last enrolled at the public school, on a monthly basis. Proposed legislation provides that the LDE shall not record such students as dropouts attributable to the public school in which the student was most recently enrolled or the public school in which the student would otherwise attend, unless the student subsequently enrolls in and attends the public school. Proposed legislation provides that students enrolled in an approved home study program or a nonpublic school not seeking state approval shall be the responsibility of the LDE with respect to compulsory school attendance issues. Effective upon governor's signature.

EXPENDITURES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There will be increased costs to the Department of Education (LDE) to hire staff and update data systems in order to enforce compulsory attendance laws with respect to students enrolled in home study programs and nonpublic schools not seeking state approval. The LDE reports that costs for hiring and equipping staff will total \$1,017,131 in FY 23, and \$972,131 in subsequent years. The LDE reports that it will incur additional costs to update data systems and guidance; however, these costs are indeterminable.

As of January 2022, there are 19,580 students registered as attending nonpublic schools not seeking state approval and 16,928 students attending home study programs approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), totaling 36,508 students. The LDE reports that it is not currently involved in enforcing compulsory attendance laws with respect to these students.

The proposed legislation requires the LDE to provide notification of attendance for each student enrolled in an approved home study program or a nonpublic school not seeking state approval, including the student's legal name, date of birth, and physical address, as well as the name of the last public school attended and the grade in which the student was last enrolled at the public school, on a monthly basis to the governing authority of the public school in which the student was most recently enrolled and, if different, the governing authority of the public school which the student would otherwise attend.

In 2021, Attendance Specialists from the Louisiana Attendance Alliance Initiative, a partnership between the LDE and LSU, attempted to identify exit codes, or reason for the student's absence from the Student Information System (SIS), for 5,038 students across seven school districts and two charter schools who were counted in the February 2020 student enrollment count, but not in the October 2020 enrollment count. As of December 13, 2021, the Initiative has been able to verify the student's exit code of 1,240 of these students. The Initiative found that 99 of these students had transferred to a BESE-approved home study program, while 6 had transferred to a nonpublic school not seeking state approval.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

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}

Evan Brasseaux

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 Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer



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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Enforcement of compulsory attendance for students enrolled in a nonpublic school not seeking state approval will likely require changes to the current reporting requirements of such schools, as they are not currently required to report the names or dates of birth of the children enrolled in them.

The LDE reports that it will need to create nine (9) Educational Program Consultant 3 positions, each costing \$104,415 (\$72,010 salary and \$32,405 related benefits) for a total personal services cost of \$939,731 per year. In addition, each position will also require \$300 in travel expenses per month, totaling \$32,400 in annual operating costs. Finally, the LDE reports it will need \$5,000 per position in the first year for equipment costs, totaling \$45,000. These costs include laptops, docking stations, mobile hotspots, and cell phones.

The LDE plans to assign each of the new positions to one of the nine regions defined by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). These employees would be responsible for locating and enrolling students in statewide data systems, monitoring and tracking student attendance, and intervening when necessary.

The LDE reports its Office of Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics will need to develop a data system to collect new information, including potentially registering students and reporting their attendance data. The costs to develop this data system are indeterminable at this time.

LDE also reports that its Office of Career and College Readiness will need to update its guidance regarding compulsory attendance and issues related to students registered as attending nonpublic schools not seeking state approval; however, this will be done with existing staff and will not require additional funds.

Senate
Dual Referral Rules
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