



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **SB 416** SLS 24RS 564  
 Bill Text Version: **REENGROSSED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 15, 2024	8:24 AM	<b>Author:</b> BOUIE
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> EDUCATION		<b>Analyst:</b> Julie Silva
<b>Subject:</b> School Bus Disciplinarians		

SCHOOLS RE INCREASE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 2

Provides relative to a disciplinarian or other school administrator to ride on a school bus transporting students to and from school. (gov sig)

Proposed legislation requires any city, parish, or other local school board providing free transportation on a school bus to provide a bus monitor, who may be a disciplinarian or other school administrator, to ride on a school bus when an incident takes place that causes a disturbance. Disturbance, for the purposes of proposed legislation, is defined as: (1) engaging in a fistic encounter; (2) addressing any offensive, derisive, or annoying words to any other person who is lawfully in any street, or other public place; or call him by any offensive or derisive name, or make any noise or exclamation in his presence and hearing with the intent to deride, offend, or annoy him, or to prevent him from pursuing his lawful business, occupation, or duty; (3) appearing in an intoxicated condition; or (4) engaging in any act in a violent and tumultuous manner by any three or more persons. If required, the monitor is to ride on the bus for the remainder of the school year.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	<b>INCREASE</b>	
<b>Annual Total</b>						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

There is likely to be an increase in local governmental expenditures as a result of this measure, though the extent to which this may occur will be situational and based on the specific circumstances of a given school district. Proposed legislation would require all local school boards to provide a monitor, who may be either a disciplinarian or other school administrator, to ride a school bus on which an incident causing disturbance occurs, for the remainder of the school year of such occurrence. Any increase in expenditures for local school districts will be directly related to the number of qualifying incidents that occur on school buses in a specific district each year. LDOE provided there were 12,250 school bus disciplinary incident reports filed statewide in the 2022-23 school year. Not all of these reports meet the threshold provided in proposed legislation that would require a monitor to be placed on the bus, but some offense types that would qualify are provided below. Note that these numbers may count incidents more than once, if more than one student was involved and received a disciplinary report. They also do not contemplate the possibility of whether multiple incidents occurred on the same bus; therefore, using them to project the number of monitors that may be needed is not likely to provide an accurate cost estimate. Additionally, it is unknown how many, if any, of the buses where these reported incidents occurred had monitors on board.

Disciplinary Offense Type	Number of Reports
Instigated or Participated in Fights	2,506
Exhibited Injurious Conduct	1,281
Uses Obscene or Profane Language	815
Committed a Crime of Violence (per R.S. 14:2(B))	109
Uses or Possesses Alcohol or Dangerous Substances	106
Public Indecency	11
Sexual Harassment	28

**CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO**

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

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

<u>Senate</u>	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	<u>House</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

  
**Patrice Thomas**  
**Deputy Fiscal Officer**



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**CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:**

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Some school boards report having employees currently on staff who serve as monitors, however not all do. For those that do not, an increase in expenditures may be realized in the event placement of a monitor on a bus is necessary. The following information is provided to illustrate potential costs a district may incur if it opts to hire an employee or employees specifically for the purpose of serving as a bus monitor. HR 146 of the 2022 Regular Session required LDOE to study the feasibility and effectiveness of installing seat belts on school buses. The report suggested that aides should be hired to assist with school bus evacuations in the event of an emergency and to ensure that occupants are using restraints properly. At that time, the estimated annual cost per aide ranged from approximately \$17,000 to \$35,000. Additional costs associated with retirement benefits and medical insurance for these employees would also be incurred. For school districts that opt to utilize existing employees to serve as monitors, expenditures would be expected to increase to provide overtime pay for nonexempt employees. Additional pay may also be provided to exempt employees, at the discretion of the local school district. The significance of any increase in expenditures is also expected to be dependent on the time of year a qualifying incident occurs. For instance, costs will be higher if an incident occurs near the start of a school year as a monitor will be required for a more significant length of time than if an incident were to occur closer to the end of a school year.

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}

  
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