

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



Fiscal Note On: **HB 656** HLS 18RS 1007  
 Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> May 22, 2018	1:26 PM	<b>Author:</b> EMERSON
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Education		<b>Analyst:</b> Jodi Mauroner
<b>Subject:</b> Literacy Screening		

STUDENTS EN INCREASE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 2  
 Provides relative to literacy screenings for students

**Present law** provides that not later than 30 days after the beginning of the school year, each second and third grade teacher shall report the number of students who cannot read at grade level. Provides that copies of this report shall be sent simultaneously to the school principal and system superintendent. **Proposed law** changes the requirement so that each second and third grade student shall be administered a literacy screener to identify the number of students who read below, at, or above grade level. Provides that students scoring above grade level shall be considered for evaluation into a gifted program. Further provides that students scoring below grade level shall be considered for additional resources. Provides that not later than 45 days after the beginning of school, the literacy screening report be sent to school principal and system superintendent; the report shall include the number of children who were referred to gifted evaluation as a result of the screening. Further applies requirements to Charter schools.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
<b>Annual Total</b>						
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

There will be an increase in expenditures of school districts and other public charter schools due to the increased screening requirements of the proposed legislation and to the extent additional students are determined to be eligible for, and admitted to, gifted programs or to provide additional resources to students scoring below grade level. There will be an increase in state MFP funding needs to the extent additional students are identified and admitted to gifted programs.

Students who demonstrate abilities that give evidence of high academic performance and who have met the criteria outlined in BESE policy are eligible to receive specialized educational services and programs. BESE policy provides the screening procedure for these students which includes assessments by at least 2 regular staff members such as the principal or designee, teachers, counselors, pupil appraisal personnel, and other professional staff, along with the student's teacher to determine whether to evaluate or provide modifications for enrichment. The individual evaluation process includes assessments administered by a certified or licensed psychologist, evaluation of reading and math skills by an educational assessment teacher or other qualified pupil appraisal member, an interview with the student's parents conducted by a school social worker or other qualified examiner, and an interview with the teacher of the enrolled student. Increases in the number of students requiring such an evaluation could increase these personnel resource needs of a school or district. Per recent BESE policy changes, third and fourth grade students who have scored below the "basic" achievement level shall be provided with focused, on-grade level instructional support, including summer remediation. Adding additional support requirements for second grade students will further increase resource demands.

Districts may operate magnet schools, or schools which offer magnet programs and service delivery models include regular classroom with supplemental aids and services, resource centers or classes, and self contained classes. Currently schools which do not offer stand alone programs utilize resource teachers who are shared across multiple schools to provide students this specialized instruction. **Continued on Page 2**

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There will be an increase in MFP allocations to local school districts to the extent additional students are classified as gifted. The MFP calculates a 60% weight to such students for the purpose of providing additional funding. The base per pupil amount is \$3,961; the total base per pupil amount for a gifted student is \$6,337. The FY 18 MFP reports a student enrollment of 684,539 as of 2/1/2017 with 29,221 (4.3%) identified as gifted. Any potential increase in these numbers as a result of this proposal is indeterminable.

Senate  
 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*  
**Evan Brasseaux**  
**Staff Director**

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**CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:**

**Expenditure Explanation**

Increased teacher qualifications as established in BESE policy ensures that teachers have the content knowledge and skills to serve gifted students. Furthermore, BESE policy provides for class size and student/teacher ratios. Increases in the number of eligible students could require districts to expand existing programs and/or establish new programs, both of which would likely increase the number of qualified teachers necessary to meet these requirements. Increased needs will be based on the additional number of students who may be classified as gifted and the existing capacity of schools to serve these students without additional resources.

The MFP calculates a 60% weight to such students for the purpose of providing additional funding. The base per pupil amount is \$3,961; the total base per pupil amount for a gifted student is \$6,337, a difference of \$2,376. The FY 18 MFP reports a student enrollment of 684,539 as of 2/1/2017 with 29,221 (4.3%) identified as gifted. Any potential increase in these numbers is indeterminable. **As an illustrative example, a 1% increase in the number of gifted students would equate to 292 students \* \$2,376 = \$694,291; the state average share of MFP costs is 65% or \$451,289.**

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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