



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

Fiscal Note On: **HB 325** HLS 23RS 717  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> April 10, 2023	9:21 AM	<b>Author:</b> HARRIS, LANCE
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Education		
<b>Subject:</b> Administration of ACT and WorkKeys tests		<b>Analyst:</b> Julie Silva

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY OR SEE FISC NOTE LF EX Page 1 of 1  
 Provides relative to the administration of certain tests with respect to the school and district accountability system

Proposed legislation requires students pursuing a career diploma to take the WorkKeys test, with the option to take the ACT upon the request of a parent or legal guardian, and conversely requires students pursuing a regular diploma to take the ACT, with the option to take the WorkKeys test upon the request of a parent or legal guardian. Present law requires the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to develop an equivalency system for the ACT and WorkKeys tests and to use a student's highest score for purposes of the school and district accountability system. Proposed legislation would have this system apply to both students pursuing a career diploma and students pursuing a regular diploma.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2027-28</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
<b>Annual Total</b>						
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2027-28</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
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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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<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**

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) and local schools could see an increase or decrease in expenditures due to the proposed legislation. LDE reports the state has a current contract with American College Testing (ACT) to provide WorkKeys and ACT assessments to students in Louisiana. The annual cost per assessment is as follows:

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>
WorkKeys	\$12.00	\$12.50	\$13.00
ACT	\$38.25	\$39.00	\$39.75

The state currently pays for all grade 11 students to take the ACT for the first time and grade 11 Jump Start Pathways (career diploma) students to take WorkKeys for the first time. In addition, the state pays for grade 12 students who did not take the ACT in grade 11 to take the assessment. As a part of the contract, schools cover the cost for students who choose to sit for either assessment additional times. The state could see a decrease in expenditures as career diploma students would be required only to take WorkKeys, rather than the more expensive ACT. The total impact of the proposed legislation is indeterminable as a student on the career diploma track could still opt to take the ACT, which would come at an additional cost to schools.

Public and charter local education agencies (LEAs) have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with LDE concerning payment for additional ACT and WorkKeys assessments. The current MOU requires LEAs to calculate the total estimated cost of additional ACT and WorkKeys assessments and to then prepay LDE 75% of those costs. A final reconciliation invoice is then sent to LEAs indicating either a refund for overpayment or request for payment of any remaining balance. Proposed legislation also codifies current administrative rule which requires students on a regular diploma track to take the ACT, but goes a step further by permitting them to take WorkKeys if requested by a parent or legal guardian. Effectively, this codification should have no effect on state expenditures, but schools may see an increase if these students opt to take WorkKeys in addition to the required ACT.

**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}

*Evan Brasseaux*  
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**Evan Brasseaux**  
 Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer