



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 177** SLS 23RS 108
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 1, 2023	5:41 PM	Author: MCMATH
Dept./Agy.: Education		
Subject: Expanded academic support for reading and math		Analyst: Julie Silva

SCHOOLS EG INCREASE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 2
 Provides relative to required accelerated instruction for certain students. (8/1/23)

Proposed legislation amends provisions in current law regarding the requirement for public schools to provide accelerated instruction to students who fail to achieve mastery in examinations administered pursuant to the state's school and district accountability system. Proposed legislation adds students in third grade, but limits accelerated instruction to those students who fail to achieve mastery on reading and math statewide assessments. Proposed legislation further provides that accelerated instruction be either through one-on-one or small groups with five or fewer students, at least three times a week for a minimum of 30 minutes either embedded in the school day, or provided outside of it. Proposed legislation additionally allows accelerated instruction be provided through a high-quality tutoring provider selected by the school district.

EXPENDITURES	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>	<u>2027-28</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Annual Total						
REVENUES	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2026-27</u>	<u>2027-28</u>	<u>5 -YEAR TOTAL</u>
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>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed legislation is likely to lead to an increase in local fund expenditures for local education agencies (LEAs); however, the impacts are indeterminable and will vary based on student need and LEA. Proposed legislation amends existing law to require expanded academic support be offered to students in the third through eighth grade who fail to achieve mastery in statewide assessments in the previous academic year. Per the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE), in 2021-2022, there were 185,897 students who scored below mastery in the English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics content areas on LEAP 2025 exams in the third through seventh grades. There is currently no statewide ELA and math assessment for second graders. LDE reports a literacy screener will be available in the 2023-2024 school year, and the department has plans to develop a math screener the following year. LDE reports LEAs may need to provide stipends for teachers who provide one-on-one or small group instruction for students if such instruction is done outside of school hours. LEAs would also be responsible for payment of contracts with high-quality tutoring providers.

Through September 30, 2024, local school districts are able to utilize federal funds from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund to implement the proposed legislation; however, to the extent districts choose not to utilize ESSER funding to provide expanded academic support, districts will need to identify or receive other sources of funding to comply with the proposed legislation. This may include local funds or other applicable federal funding sources.

The Steve Carter Literacy Program, which is currently funded by LDE with a portion of the state set aside of ESSER funds, may also help to defray potential costs through the first quarter of FY 25. This program provides a \$1,000 voucher for literacy tutoring for students in kindergarten through grade five, who meet certain requirements.

In lieu of offering accelerated instruction, districts may provide a "highly effective" teacher of record for students who require expanded academic support. According to data from the LDE Compass Information System, 51.5% of teachers were evaluated as "highly effective" for the 2020-2021 school year. It is unknown how many "highly effective" teachers are available within each subject area and grade level. Further, the number of "highly effective" teachers varies by school and district. To the extent that districts utilize this methodology, this will offset or mitigate the cost of offering accelerated instruction. If there is an insufficient number of "highly effective" teachers available for accelerated instruction, districts will face increased costs to hire such teachers in schools where they are needed, or to provide accelerated instruction in accordance with the proposed measure.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2
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 checked="" 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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 Interim Deputy Fiscal Officer



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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

LDE reports the proposed law could result in an increase in state expenditures, as the department may be asked to develop tutoring resources for local use; however, it is not apparent proposed legislation requires LDE provide such supports and resources for tutoring providers. There is currently no funding within the LDE budget to support this cost, and whether LDE will be required to assist in this way is unknown at this time. LDE estimates the initial development of reading and math resources will cost \$500,000 in FY 24, with subsequent years requiring SGF expenditures of \$127,700 for ongoing program updates.

Proposed legislation does require LDE to identify and publish a list of high-quality tutors, and exempts any such tutors on this list from state procurement laws. LDE reports there is no cost associated with developing such a vendor guide. The department has an existing tutoring platform for reading tutors, which they report could be expanded, if needed, to include math tutors. LDE reports there may be an additional cost to the department to update the tutoring platform.

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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