

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **SB 252** SLS 24RS 240
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: April 2, 2024	7:39 PM	Author: MIZELL
Dept./Agy.: EDUCATION		
Subject: Behavioral health intervention		Analyst: Julie Silva

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EG SEE FISC NOTE LF EX See Note Page 1 of 2

Requires city, parish and other local public school boards to adopt and implement a program to facilitate behavior health intervention and referral for treatment. (8/1/24)

Proposed legislation requires local school boards to implement a behavioral health intervention program. The program must be designed to assist school personnel in identifying signs of behavioral or emotional challenges that may cause a student's behavior to escalate to aggressive or disruptive levels that would result in disciplinary actions, including suspension or expulsion. An employee at each school is to be responsible for identifying any community behavioral support services available, and for assisting in referrals for students, when appropriate. The program also requires that after any second suspension of a student during the same school year, the principal and the designated employee consult on whether the student's behavior rises to the level of willful disobedience and can be attributed to behavioral or emotional challenges. If so, the principal and employee must schedule a conference with the student's parent or legal guardian to discuss the student's behavior and referral of the student and family to support services for assessment and treatment. Proposed legislation requires all local school boards to submit a report by July 1st each year to the Department of Education (LDOE) and the House and Senate committees on education including the number of students identified as possibly having behavioral or emotional challenges; the number for which a conference was scheduled; and the number referred for assessment and supportive services.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	

Annual Total

REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated significant effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. Local school districts may incur additional expenses, as outlined below, but if necessary at all, they are expected to be minimal.

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) reports each school site should already employ a behavioral health provider, who they assume would be the proper employee designated for the purposes of proposed legislation. Proposed legislation does not require the hiring of a new employee, but instead directs schools to assign these duties to an existing employee, and does not include specific qualifications for designation. **To the extent a school currently has a designated employee that fulfills the proposed requirements, there will be no impact. For schools that do not, an existing employee may experience an increased workload related to the requirements; however, such an increase, and any related fiscal impacts, will vary by school and are not anticipated to be significant.**

Some local school boards report currently providing these services at the district level, through pupil appraisal personnel who provide assistance to teachers and other school personnel in the development and implementation of behavioral interventions. Proposed legislation does not require the hiring of additional staff members at the school level, but the employees designated at each school could use existing district personnel as a resource when facilitating mental and behavioral health services for students and families.

To the extent local school districts are in compliance with existing law, the adoption of new rules and regulations is not anticipated to result in an increase in local fund expenditures. Proposed legislation requires local school boards to adopt rules and regulations to assist school personnel in identifying the signs and symptoms of a student with behavioral or emotional challenges that could result in such a student's behavior escalating to aggressive or disruptive levels.


CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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}


Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer



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CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:

Act 1225 of the 2023 RS (codified as R.S. 17:252) required the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), in collaboration with the Louisiana Juvenile Justice Planning and Coordination Board, to develop a model master plan for improving behavior and discipline within schools. The statute requires local school boards to use the model to develop their own master plans, which are to include requirements concerning the provision of pre-service and ongoing grade appropriate classroom management training for teachers, principals, and other appropriate school personnel regarding positive behavioral supports and reinforcement, conflict resolution, mediation, cultural competence, restorative practices, guidance and discipline, and adolescent development. Local public school boards are additionally required to regularly review discipline data from each school to determine what additional classroom management training is needed, if any, and what additional classroom support activities should be provided by the principal and school administration. Providing reports on the number of students identified by school personnel as having behavioral or emotional challenges, the number for whom a conference was scheduled, and the number of students then referred for further services is not anticipated to result in an increase in expenditures, or a significant increase in workloads, for local schools or school districts, as much of the data is currently being collected and compiled for other reporting requirements.

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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