



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: HB 267 HLS 24RS 313
Bill Text Version: ENROLLED
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 31, 2024 8:20 PM Author: CARVER
Dept./Agy.: EDUCATION Analyst: Julie Silva
Subject: Numeracy skills education for students in kindergarten through third grade

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT EN +\$2,500,000 GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to numeracy education to students in kindergarten through third grade

Proposed legislation requires the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) to develop or provide three numeracy screeners to measure the development of foundational numeracy of each public school student in Kindergarten through third grade. Public schools are to ensure students take the provided screeners at designated times throughout the school year, and provide numeracy interventions and supports to students identified as having numeracy skills below grade level. Additionally requires school officials and parents to create an individual numeracy improvement plan for each student identified as having numeracy skills below grade level. The provisions of proposed legislation are effective when an Act of the legislature containing a specific appropriation of monies for implementation becomes effective.

Table with 7 columns: EXPENDITURES, REVENUES, 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27, 2027-28, 2028-29, 5-YEAR TOTAL. Rows include State Gen. Fd., Agy. Self-Gen., Ded./Other, Federal Funds, Local Funds, and Annual Total.

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The provisions of proposed legislation are effective when an Act of the legislature containing a specific appropriation of monies for implementation becomes effective. The general appropriations bill (HB 1 of the 2024 RS), currently under consideration by the legislature, includes an appropriation of \$2.5 M "to develop and implement a numeracy screening program focusing on foundational math skills" in the event HB 267 of the 2024 RS is enacted into law.

Proposed legislation will result in an increase in SGF and local fund expenditures. The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) estimates the cost to develop and provide a numeracy screener for students in Kindergarten through third grade, will total \$2.5 M in the first year, and \$3 M each year thereafter, though the actual cost may be higher. These costs, as provided by LDOE, are based on preliminary discussions with potential vendors to provide numeracy screening services for an estimated public school enrollment count of 203,000 kindergarten through third grade students.

LDOE reports the primary expense for a numeracy screener will result from either developing all new content for the screener, through the use of contractors, or procuring numeracy screener content from a vendor. Based on the current cost of similar content development, LDOE estimates expenditures for this purpose will total \$2.03 M in FY 25, and increase to \$2.53 M in FY 26 and after. The lower cost in FY 25 assumes there will be time needed to complete the contract process, before development work on the screeners can begin. LDOE expects additional expenses associated with administration of the screener beginning in FY 25, and are anticipated to total \$466,800 annually. These costs include those for: training teachers who will administer the screener, review of identified textbooks and instructional materials used to teach student mathematics to determine compliance with proposed legislation, and identification or development of materials to support communication with parents.

Proposed legislation requires numeracy screening to begin no later than start of the 2026-27 school year. Due to the planning and training necessary to implement such a program, LDOE provided that they anticipate numeracy screeners will be available to provide to students by the start of the 2025-26 school year.

Any activities for home support, identification or development of tools for intervention, and the cost of substitutes to allow teachers to receive the training necessary and to administer screenings, would be local costs incurred by local school systems. These costs are situational, and will vary by school and school system. As a result, the LFO is unable to provide an estimate of costs to local school districts, but an overall increase in local fund expenditures is anticipated.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate Dual Referral Rules
[X] 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
[ ] 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
[X] 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
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