

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 763** HLS 14RS 1178
 Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.: **REVISED**

Date: April 22, 2014	5:30 PM	Author: ORTEGO
Dept./Agy.: Education		Analyst: Jodi Mauroner
Subject: Foreign language programs		

SCHOOLS EG INCREASE SG EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides relative to foreign language immersion programs in public schools

The proposed legislation would require a local school to establish a foreign language program if requested by the parents or legal guardians of at least 25 enrolling kindergarten or 25 enrolling first grade students. The bill prohibits a local school from denying enrollment to any student if all the following requirements are met: 1) the MFP provides foreign language teacher salary supplements at a funding level equal to or greater than the 2011-2012 fiscal year; 2) a sufficient number of teachers are available to accommodate all interested students; 3) the student resides within the jurisdictional boundaries of the school district; 4) the student applies for enrollment no later than March 1 of the school year prior to enrollment; and 5) if the student entering second grade or above, he is sufficiently proficient in the target language or is transferring from a certified foreign language program in another school district. Effective July 1, 2014.

EXPENDITURES	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	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	<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

State general fund expenditures will increase in the event a school board establishes a new foreign language immersion program, or expands an existing program and a new foreign language associate teacher is included in the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula. The MFP provides local school systems \$20,000 for each foreign language associate teacher employed in their system up to a statewide maximum of 300 teachers. As of 3-24-2014, there are 212 foreign language associate teachers funded through the MFP. The MFP also provides \$6,000 for first year foreign language associate teachers and \$4,000 for 2nd and 3rd year foreign language associates teachers. If funds are not provided through the MFP or there were not a sufficient number of foreign language teachers available, the school system is not required to establish an immersion program. If a school system establishes a program, the Department of Education and CODOFIL work with the school district to place a foreign language associate teacher.

There is an indeterminable impact to local school systems which may be required to establish new foreign language immersion programs. The resources of the school systems vary. Expenditures may increase for some while others may be able to provide immersion programs without significant increases in expenditures or for which MFP supplemental funding provides sufficient funding. If an immersion program is established in a school system, it is assumed that the foreign language associate teacher provided for the program could replace an existing teacher due to the size of the class (20-25 students) required to establish the immersion program and through attrition of the school system. Typically, once a foreign language associate teacher is placed, a teacher previously teaching the class is moved to another grade level or possibly another school. Due to attrition levels, the total number of teachers in the school system do not necessarily increase. The \$20,000 that is provided through the MFP is available to the school system to purchase materials and supplies needed for the program each year.

If the school system is not able to replace an existing teacher, the school system will have to cover the difference between the teacher's salary and the \$20,000 that is provided for such teacher in the MFP. For illustrative purposes, if a teacher is paid a salary of \$40,000, the salary and retirement benefits for the employee cost approximately \$51,200 (salary plus 28% retirement). The difference between the cost of the teacher salary and the amount provided in the MFP is \$31,200.

Finally, to the extent that school systems have existing immersion programs, an expansion of the program could have a minimal impact. However, some school systems have indicated that the physical capacity necessary to adequately meet the demand for program expansion may be insufficient.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	House	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	<i>Evan Brasseaux</i> Evan Brasseaux Staff Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {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}		