

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 6470-01
Bill No.: HB 2555
Subject: Elementary and Secondary Education; Disabilities
Type: Original
Date: March 15, 2018

Bill Summary: This proposal requires a student to receive instruction in braille reading and writing as part of his or her individualized education plan unless instruction in braille is determined not appropriate for the child.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
 This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Local Government	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor)	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor)	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor)

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Officials from the **Summersville R2 School District** assume a negative fiscal impact.

Officials from the **Wellsville-Middletown R-1 School District** state that as the district already does this for any student that needs it, this proposal will have no noticeable fiscal impact on the school.

Officials from the **Kirksville R-III School District** assume this proposal would have a negative fiscal impact on district. There are not many teachers certified in these specialty areas. The district advertised for a sign language teacher for 3 years and never had one because there were no certified staff apply.

In response to a similar proposal, SB 681 (LR 4760-02), officials from the **Bakersfield R-IV School District** assumed the estimated cost for the district would be approximately \$150,000 per year.

In response to a similar proposal, SB 681 (LR 4760-02), officials from the **West Plains School District** assumed the cost related to employing a Braille specialist is \$20,000 to \$70,000 annually.

Oversight notes, in previous years, DESE estimated the salary for a Braille instructor at \$60,000 plus \$34,200 [57% (school district benefit percentage)] for a total of \$94,200.

Oversight notes there are 518 school districts in the state that may be impacted by this proposal. DESE was unable to provide Oversight with the number of Braille instructors currently working in the school districts. However, they were able to say that in the 2016-2017 school year 42 school districts provided a course for visual instruction. If half of the 518 school districts needed a Braille instructor, the cost to the school districts is estimated at \$25,900,000 (259 * \$100,000). Oversight cannot estimate the number school district that would need a Braille instructor as a result of this proposal. Oversight will show the impact of this proposal as unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille instructor.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials at the following school districts: Arcadia Valley R-2, Avilla R-13, Belton, Benton County R-2, Bismark R-5, Bloomfield R-14, Blue Springs, Bolivar R-I, Bowling Green R-1, Branson, Brentwood, Bronaugh R-7, Campbell R-2, Carrollton R-7, Caruthersville, Central R-III, Chilhowee R-4, Chillicothe R-II, Clarkton C-4, Cole R-I, Columbia, Concordia R-2, Crawford County R-1, Crocker R-II, Delta C-7, East Carter R-2, Eldon R-I, Everton R-III, Fair Play, Fayette R-3, Forsyth R-3, Fox C-6, Fredericktown R-I, Fulton, Grain Valley, Hancock Place, Hannibal, Harrisonburg R-8, Harrisonville, Hillsboro R-3, Hollister R-5, Humansville R-4, Hurley R-1, Independence, Jefferson City, Kansas City Public Schools, Kearney R-1, Kennett #39, King City R-1, Kingston 42, Kirbyville R-VI, Lee Summit, Leeton R-10, Lewis County C-1, Lincoln R-II, Lindbergh, Lonedell R-14, Macon County R-1, Malta Bend, Mehville, Meramec Valley R-3, Mexico, Middle Grove C-1, Midway R-1, Milan C-2, Moberly, Monroe City R-I, Morgan County R-2, New Haven, Nixa, North Kansas City, North St. Francois Co. R-1, Northeast Nodaway R-5, Odessa R-VII, Oregon-Howell R-III, Orrick R-11, Osborn R-0, Parkway, Pattonville, Pettis County R-12, Pierce City, Plato R-5, Princeton R-5, Raymore-Peculiar R-III, Raytown, Reeds Springs R-IV, Renick R-5, Republic R-III, Richards R-V, Richland R-1, Richmond R-XVI, Riverview Gardens, Salisbury R-4, Sarcoxie R-2, Scotland County R-I, Sedalia, Seymour R-2, Shell Knob #78, Sikeston, Silex, Smithville R-2, Special School District of St. Louis County, Spickard R-II, Springfield, St Joseph, St Louis, St. Charles, St. Elizabeth R-4, Sullivan, Valley R-6, Verona R-7, Warren County R-3, Warrensburg R-6, Waynesville, Webster Groves, Wentzville, Westview C-6 and the Wright City R-2 school districts did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS			
<u>Cost</u> - School Districts - hiring a Braille instructor	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)	(Unknown, \$100,000 per district that needs a Braille <u>instructor</u>)

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill requires all students who are eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and have vision impairment that adversely affects their educational performance to receive instruction in braille unless an assessment determines that instruction in braille is not appropriate.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
 Summersville R2 School District
 West Plains School District

L.R. No. 6470-01
Bill No. HB 2555
Page 6 of 6
March 15, 2018

SOURCES OF INFORMATION (continued)

Kirksville R-III School District
Bakersfield R-IV School District
Wellsville-Middletown R-1 School District

Ross Strobe

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross Strobe", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Acting Director
March 15, 2018