

SF2291 - 0 - Interpreter Requirements Modified

Chief Author: **Zach Duckworth**
 Committee: **Education Finance And Policy**
 Date Completed: **3/11/2021 7:25:23 PM**
 Agency: **Education Department**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact	X	

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium		
	Dollars in Thousands	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	268	305	305	
Total	-	-	268	305	305	
Biennial Total			268		610	

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Alyssa Holterman Rosas **Date:** 3/11/2021 7:25:23 PM
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State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
General Fund	-	-	268	305	305	
Total		-	-	268	305	305
Biennial Total				268		610
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
General Fund	-	-	268	305	305	
Total		-	-	268	305	305
Biennial Total				268		610
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

This bill modifies requirements for interpreters in schools to include a new ALS license category called Certified Deaf Interpreter (CDI).

Assumptions

No administrative cost to MDE as activities outlined in proposal would be the responsibility of current Deaf/Hard of Hearing specialist.

The number of additional Certified Deaf Interpreters (CDIs) needed by school districts is estimated to be up to 10 interpreters statewide. It is assumed that the additional CDIs will be new positions, and are not replacing other current district employees. Based on a three year average, the average cost per CDI is \$50,000 annually (salary and benefits). If 10 additional CDIs are hired, the annual cost would be \$500,000. State aid entitlement for these positions is paid at roughly 61 percent of total salary and benefit costs. It is assumed that districts will fill these positions starting in FY 2022. Special education aid would begin in FY 2023.

It is assumed that the salary and benefit costs for these positions will be ongoing.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

10 CDIs hired in FY 22 (10 * \$50,000 = \$500,000)

State aid entitlement = 61% of salary and benefit costs (\$500,000 * .61 = \$305,000)

Based on this entitlement change, the change in special education aid appropriation under the current payment schedule (87.66% current and 12.34% final) is as follows:

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	
Entitlement			\$305,000	\$305,000	\$305,000	

Current			\$267,363	\$267,363	\$267,363	
Final from previous fiscal year				\$37,637	\$37,637	
Total Appropriation			\$267,363	\$305,000	\$305,000	

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

The salary and benefit costs for these positions will be ongoing.

Local Fiscal Impact

For those districts that add an additional 2nd interpreter for individual children who are deaf and hard of hearing, there may be increased local costs in implementing this change.

References/Sources

N/A

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