

Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

- Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 03-3878/2		Introduction Number AB-742		
Subject Background investigations and other qualifications for school bus drivers and drivers of alternative school vehicles (school vans)				
Fiscal Effect				
State:				
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate				
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues		
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues		
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget		
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local:				
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate				
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs		3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue		
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue		
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected				
<input type="checkbox"/> Towns		<input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities		
<input type="checkbox"/> Counties		<input type="checkbox"/> Others		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Districts		<input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected		Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations		
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS				
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature		Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 1/28/2004

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Subject					
Background investigations and other qualifications for school bus drivers and drivers of alternative school vehicles (school vans)					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Among other provisions, this bill requires the person (including a school district, private school or contractor) who employs an individual to operate a school van or temporary school vehicle, other than an individual who holds a school bus endorsement, to: request a criminal history search of the individual from the department of justice (DOJ); request the individual's motor vehicle operating record; and obtain a completed background information form from the individual.

The bill requires the school district, upon written request of a parent or guardian of a pupil enrolled in the school district, to disclose the name of each driver who transports the pupil.

The bill also requires the department of public instruction (DPI) to create a background information form and to prepare and make available informational materials related to the requirements imposed under the bill. The bill also requires the department of transportation (DOT), in consultation with DOJ, DPI, and the department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) to study and report on certain information technology aspects related to background investigation of applicants for school bus endorsements. The bill further requires DPI, in consultation with DOT and others, to study and report on the costs and benefits of installing and maintaining video cameras on school buses and on strategies related to training of operators of school buses and school vans or temporary school vehicles.

Local fiscal effect:

Costs to local districts are related to the number of criminal background checks that they request of DOJ, and the number of motor vehicle operating records that they request of DOT. In-state criminal background investigations conducted by DOJ cost \$15; FBI background investigations cost \$39. Several school districts currently request background investigations of their employees, but it is unknown how many districts currently do so. It also is unknown how many individuals will be required to undergo these investigations. Therefore, costs to school districts for criminal background investigations are indeterminate.

School districts may also incur costs related to obtaining motor vehicle operating records. If a school district owns its school buses, there is no charge for these records; if a district does not own its school buses, there is a \$5 charge for each operating record. These costs are also indeterminate.

Local school districts may also incur some costs related to disclosing the names of persons who transport pupils. These costs are expected to be minimal and absorbed within each school district's operating budget.

State fiscal effect:

Costs to the department are related to the requirements that it, with other entities, study and report on information technology aspects of investigations of applicants for school bus endorsements, the costs and benefits of installing and maintaining video cameras on school buses, and on strategies related to training of vehicle operators. These costs are indeterminate. DPI will also incur costs in creating a background information form and making available informational materials. These costs are indeterminate, but are expected to be able to be absorbed in the agency's operating budget.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications