

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 1/15/2010

LRB Number	09-3627/2	Introduction Number	AB-0583	Estimate Type	Original
Description Requiring passage of a supplemental examination in reading instruction to obtain a teaching license					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2009 AB 583 prohibits the DPI from issuing or renewing a license as a reading specialist or as a special education teacher, or that authorizes the holder to teach in an elementary grade or to teach reading, unless he or she passes a supplementary examination, developed or adopted by DPI that assesses specific topics. The bill also directs the DPI to offer training in the specific topics and authorizes DPI to charge a reasonable fee for the training.

State:

There is a potentially large one-time fiscal effect on the DPI to implement AB 583. The bill requires the department to develop or adopt a supplementary examination that assesses specific reading knowledge. Because the department does not currently have such an examination in place, it will be necessary to research to see if such examinations are available for the department to adopt. If so, the department will have to validate the examination. The costs related to examination validation are indeterminate. If such an exam is not available to adopt and validate, the department will need to develop an exam. Beyond test development, the department will incur the costs of test administration and results. These costs are indeterminate. The department could not absorb these costs.

The department would have to solicit bids from higher education institutions and professional associations to plan and provide an appropriate training program for the required topics covered by the supplemental examination. If an appropriate training program cannot be contracted, the department will have to develop the training. If the department provides the training, it will incur the costs of developing and delivering a training program in addition to administering an exam. The department does not currently have staff available to incur these training requirements. The training costs are indeterminate. The department will charge applicants an appropriate fee to cover the costs of the training program.

The cost of taking the training may be prohibitive to potential applicants if only one or two individuals apply for the training.

Local:

It is assumed that the additional license requirements will not necessarily equate to higher salaries for affected individuals. In addition, districts may incur additional indeterminate costs for reading interventions if more pupils are identified with dyslexia as a result of this bill. However, these costs could be offset by reduced remedial reading costs later in the pupil's school career. Therefore, the bill is not expected to have a local fiscal effect.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications