

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 21-5970/1	Introduction Number AB-0969
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Description
 reporting to law enforcement certain crimes and other incidents that occur in or on public school buildings and grounds, requiring certain schools to employ armed school resource officers, and allocating federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding to reimburse schools for costs of employing armed school resource officers

Fiscal Effect

State:

- No State Fiscal Effect
- Indeterminate
 - Increase Existing Appropriations
 - Decrease Existing Appropriations
 - Create New Appropriations
- Increase Existing Revenues
- Decrease Existing Revenues
- Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
 - Yes
 - No
- Decrease Costs

Local:

- No Local Government Costs
- Indeterminate
 - 1. Increase Costs
 - 2. Decrease Costs
 - 3. Increase Revenue
 - 4. Decrease Revenue
- Permissive Mandatory
 - Permissive Mandatory
 - Permissive Mandatory
 - Permissive Mandatory
- 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected
 - Towns Village Cities
 - Counties Others
 - School Districts WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected

- GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS

Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
DPI/ Erin Fath (608) 266-2804	Erin Fath (608) 266-2804	2/15/2022

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 2/15/2022

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires each public school, including a charter school, to report any incident that occurs in a school building or on school grounds to local law enforcement. The bill provides that, if 100 or more incidents occur in and on public school buildings and grounds during a school semester, and at least 25 of those incidents result in an arrest, the school must, no later than the first day of the next school year, employ or contract for the employment of a law enforcement officer as an armed school resource officer (SRO) to work at the school.

Under the bill, "incident" is a defined term that includes violations of state and municipal disorderly conduct laws and certain crimes, including homicide, sexual assault, burglary, battery, and arson; but for purposes of counting the number of incidents that resulted in arrest, the definition of "incidents" excludes incidents related to use or possession of alcohol, cigarettes, nicotine, tobacco products, or vaping devices.

The bill also requires DPI to use moneys awarded to the state under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to reimburse a school board or the operator of an independent charter school (ICS) that begins employing or enters into a new contract for the employment of an armed SRO as follows for a portion of the districts and ICS for a portion of the costs associated with employing an armed SRO, as follows:

- 1) 75 percent of the costs for the 2022-23 school year.
- 2) 50 percent of the costs for the 2023-24 school year.
- 3) 25 percent of the costs for the 2024-25 school year.

Local Fiscal Impact: indeterminate

The number of school districts and ICS that would meet the threshold in the bill to require the employment of an armed SRO cannot be accurately projected. Any district or ICS that hires an armed SRO as a result of the bill would have to absorb the costs from its general operating budget initially. While the bill specifies that DPI is to use federal ARPA monies to reimburse school districts and ICS for costs associated with armed SROs, those costs would not be allowable for reimbursement with federal ARPA funding, because ARPA funds are to be used to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

State impact: none; no change to appropriations.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Potential for additional costs borne by school districts and ICS related to hiring armed SROs.