

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 11/12/2023

LRB Number	23-4606/1	Introduction Number	AB-0575	Estimate Type	Original
Description the mental health training program provided by the Department of Public Instruction					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, the Department of Public Instruction must establish a mental health training program under which it provides training to school district and independent charter school staff on three specific evidence-based strategies related to addressing mental health issues in schools. The three specific evidence-based strategies are 1) The Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment program, 2) Trauma Sensitive Schools, and 3) Youth Mental Health First Aid.

Under this bill, DPI must annually distribute information about this mental health training program to school boards, operators of independent charter schools, and the appropriate standing committees of the legislature. Additionally, under the bill, each school board and charter school governing board must develop a plan for addressing mental health issues that arise for school staff members and pupils. The plan must include information about DPI's mental health training program. Finally, the bill requires each school board and charter school governing board to annually distribute its mental health plan to all school staff.

State: None

The Department has an established mental health program in place which provides training to school district and independent Charter School (ICSs) staff on the required three specific evidence-based strategies enumerated in state statutes. The department currently distributes information annually about this mental health training program to schools using various distribution methods (i.e. list servs, newsletters, targeted outreach, WISH Center website, conferences...). To meet the bill requirements, the Department would expand existing processes to ensure all school boards, operators of independent charter schools, and the appropriate standing committees of the legislature are receiving information annually about the mental health training program. This would likely be done electronically where feasible. Any additional costs to the department to assemble and further disseminate this information would have to be absorbed by the department.

Local Indeterminate

It is unknown how many school boards and ICS governing bodies have already developed their own mental health plans and the degree to which they are distributing the plan to all their school staff. The costs would likely vary across districts and ICSs based on their size and available resources. For those reasons the costs are indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications