

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 669** SLS 14RS 388  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.: **REVISED**

<b>Date:</b> May 8, 2014 7:49 AM	<b>Author:</b> CROWE
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Education	<b>Analyst:</b> Jodi Mauroner
<b>Subject:</b> Standards, Assessments and Curricula development	

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 2

Provides for the Educational Excellence for Louisiana Commission to develop content and performance standards, curriculum, and assessments for elementary and secondary education. (gov sig)

This proposed legislation provides for the creation of the Educational Excellence for Louisiana Commission (EEXL) to develop content and performance standards, curriculum and assessments for English Language arts and math. Prohibits BESE and the Department of Education from joining a consortium or organization that would cede control over any aspect of public elementary and secondary education to those entities. Provides for legislative approval prior to implementation by the school systems. Prohibits the use of assessments other than LEAP, ACT or ACT WorkKeys, NAEP, or the assessment adopted by the EEXL. The bill states the EEXL Commission shall be comprised of 21 members, staffed by the LA School Board Association and shall meet at least once a month; further provides for a process for the Commission to receive proposed standards, curriculum and assessments and allow for public review and comment prior to adoption. Requires submission to the Legislature as follows: March 2015- Grades K-5 content and performance standards and curriculum for in English Language arts and math; March 2016- Grades 6-12 content and performance standards and curriculum for English Language arts and math; March 2016- Grades K-5 EEXL assessments; and March 2017 Grades 6-12 EEXL assessments.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Agy. Self-Gen.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Local Funds	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
<b>Annual Total</b>						

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$0</b>
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION**

There will be a significant increase in state general fund and local school systems expenditures to develop new standards and curriculum and associated assessments aligned with those standards for grades K-12. The actual increase in cost will ultimately be determined by the extent to which the standards, assessments and curriculum are changed, the impact to local school boards and higher education, and actual implementation dates.

Continuing the 13-14 Assessment

(FY 14-15 through FY 17-18 \$13.2 M)

These costs will be incurred until new standards and aligned assessments are adopted. The ELA/math assessments currently being utilized for the 2013-2014 school year were intended to be used for one year only. Continued use of these assessments will require additional item development and test forms until new assessments are implemented beginning in FY 17-18 for grades K-5 and FY 18-19 for grades 6-12. Based on historical expenditures, a total of \$3 M is projected for the development of new items for FY 14-15 through FY 16-17 and \$1.4 M item development cost for the high school End of Course (EOC) assessments is projected for FY 15-16 through FY 17-18. The LFO has been unable to determine whether these projected costs represent an actual increase or whether some level of funding is already included in the operating budget.

Educational Excellence for Louisiana Commission and Standards, Curriculum and Assessment Task Forces

(FY 14-15 through FY 18-19 \$6 M)

There will be an indeterminable increase in expenditures associated with the EEXL Commission and the five Task Forces to develop, and adopt state content and performance standards, curriculum and assessments. While Louisiana School Board Association staff may be utilized, expenditures could increase for costs related to meeting space, materials, and incidentals. Additionally, all 88 participants are eligible for travel reimbursements and substitute teacher pay will be required for the 63 participating teachers. Based on costs associated with similar commissions, expenditures could increase by \$643,692 for the period FY 14-15 through FY 18-19. This assumes the Standards and Curriculum Task Forces would meet monthly in FY 14-15 and FY 15-16 (\$127,624 x 2). The Assessment Task Forces would meet monthly in FY 15-16 and FY 16-17 (\$27,127 x 2) and the commission would meet monthly every year over the 5 year period (\$66,838 x 5). Furthermore, the commission may choose to engage state and national consultants and/or content experts to participate in the development of new content standards, curriculum and assessments. In the past, similar consulting services have been provided for as little as a \$1,000 fee (plus travel reimbursements) to as much as \$30,000 or more. Use of multiple consultants could result in significantly higher commission costs. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

Senate Dual Referral Rules House  6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}

13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}  6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}  6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

*Evan Brasseaux*

**Evan Brasseaux**  
**Staff Director**

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE**  
**Fiscal Note**



Fiscal Note On: **SB 669** SLS 14RS 388  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.: **REVISED**

<b>Date:</b> May 8, 2014 7:49 AM	<b>Author:</b> CROWE
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Education	<b>Analyst:</b> Jodi Mauroner
<b>Subject:</b> Standards, Assessments and Curricula development	

**CONTINUED EXPLANATION from page one:**

Page 2 of 2

Further, the bill creates and provides for the membership and responsibilities of the EEXL Standards Specialists Task Force on Math (5 members), the EEXL Standards Specialists Task Force on English Language arts (5 members), the EEXL Curriculum Specialists Task Force for math (24 members), the EEXL Curriculum Specialists Task Force for English Language arts (24 members), and the EEXL Assessment Specialists Task Force (9 members).

**CONTINUED EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION from page one**

Additionally, there may be an increase in expenditures for local school systems and institutions of higher education up to \$5.4 M to provide leave time for teachers assigned to the Standards, Curriculum and Assessments Task Forces. The bill requires that task force members shall be provided with adequate leave time to attend meetings and to fulfill their duties as a task force member. Similar projects in the past have required a considerable dedication of time and it is possible that task force members may require substantial time away from the classroom. Local school boards and institutions of higher education will be required to provide substitute teachers and instructors, not just for the Task Force meetings, but also for time away from the classroom while performing the duties required by legislation. Based on an average teacher salary of \$65,000 (includes related benefits), the 48 teachers engaged in curriculum development could require up to \$3.1 M and the 10 higher education teachers engaged in standards development could require up to \$500K for FY 14-15 and FY 15-16 if they work full time on this project. There is a possible cost of up to \$1.2 for FY 15-16 and FY 16-17 for the 9 teachers engaged in the assessment development. To the extent teachers are able to fully perform task force and regular teaching duties simultaneously, or the cost of substitute teachers and instructors is lower, these costs could be reduced.

Finally, since the bill requires that the standards, curriculum and assessments adopted by the commission be approved by the Legislature, which may return any portion of the recommendations, the commission and task force members' activities could overlap and/or extend beyond the last reporting date of March 2017.

New Assessments

(FY 15-16 and thereafter \$48.3 M)

There will be an increase in expenditures to develop and implement assessments aligned with the new standards recommended by the commission and approved by the legislature. Based on historical expenditures of the DOE, item development, including field testing and validation costs approximately \$239,750 per form for K-8. End of Course (EOC) item and form development costs approximately \$209,720. FY 15-16 development costs for new assessments for Grades K-5 is projected at \$9.9 M; continued (EOC) tests for Grades 6-12 will require an additional \$1.4 M for new item and forms development. In FY 16-17 development cost for new assessments for Grades 6-12 is projected at \$16.3 M (\$8.8 M for new test development and \$7.5 M for EOC item development), as well as \$3 M for continued item and form development for the new K-5 tests. For FY 17-18 and thereafter, the projected costs for annual item and form replenishment totals \$8.8 M (\$5 M for new K-8 tests, \$1.4 M for EOC tests, \$1.2 M for LAA1 and \$1.2 M for ELDA).

School System Impacts

There will be an indeterminable increase but likely significant increase in expenditures for local school boards once new standards and curriculum have been adopted. Local school systems are not required to use the curriculum developed by the Task Force and will be required to align instructional materials and curricula to the new standards, as well as provide teacher training and professional development. As a general rule, school systems already follow a replacement schedule for textbooks and other instructional materials. Furthermore, districts have been engaged in training for alignment with the Common Core State Standards. As such, the extent of the increase will depend upon how closely the new standards align with existing standards and the extent to which the local school boards are able to utilize existing instructional materials rather than replace all textbooks and related materials with those aligned to the new standards.

There will be an indeterminable increase in expenditures for institutions of higher education to realign their teacher preparation programs if new standards differ significantly from existing standards. Institutions have spent the past four years aligning teacher preparation curricula to the Common Core standards so that new teachers would be prepared to teach students to the new standards. Administrators and faculty have engaged in training, faculty have revised syllabi to reflect the integration of Common Core standards and some campuses have even upgraded data systems to facilitate the changes. Significant changes may require further revisions to align these programs with new standards.

Federal Funding Impacts

To the extent the use of transitional assessments and the timeline for approval and implementation of new assessments create impediments to administering a valid assessment instrument for any school year, federal funding distribution and federal funding waivers could be at risk. Replacement testing instruments must be approved by the federal Department of Education as meeting their standards of "high quality" and "alignment" for both regular students and those with disabilities. FY 14 funding from Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) totals approximately \$557M. In addition, the current Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flex waiver which gives local school districts flexibility in the use of their federal funds could be negatively impacted.

Senate

Dual Referral Rules

House

6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}

13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}

6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 State Rev. Reduc. {H & S}

13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}

6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

*Evan Brasseaux*

**Evan Brasseaux**  
**Staff Director**