

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **HB 181** HLS 15RS 773

Bill Text Version: **ENROLLED**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: June 2, 2015	12:12 PM	Author: BROWN, TERRY
Dept./Agy.: Office of Student Financial Assistance		
Subject: Changes Student Citizenship Requirements for TOPS		Analyst: Charley Rome

STUDENT/LOANS-SCHOLARSHIP

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Provides relative to student citizenship requirements for TOPS eligibility purposes

Current law provides exceptions for non-U.S. citizens to be eligible for TOPS award if they meet either of the following: (1) If the student is eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship and within 60 days of attaining majority age such student applies for U.S. citizenship and obtains such citizenship within one year after the date of application. (2) A student graduating during the 2002-2003 school year or after who is a permanent resident and is eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship. The bill provides the following new exception to the present law citizenship requirement for students graduating during the 2018-2019 school year and thereafter: a non-U.S. citizen may qualify for a TOPS award if the student's parent is either serving in or has been honorably discharged from any branch of the U.S. armed forces. Effective upon governor's signature.

EXPENDITURES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	SEE BELOW	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0

REVENUES	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

The proposed legislation may slightly increase TOPS expenditures from state general fund in FY20 in thereafter. However, any increase should be insignificant and involve very few students. The bill is effective with the 2018-2019 high school academic year and the first fiscal impact of the legislation would be in FY20. The bill allows non-U.S. citizens to qualify for a TOPS award if their parent is either serving in, or has been honorably discharged from any branch of the U.S. armed forces. LOSFA does not have information on the military service of parents of non-citizen students to estimate how many students might be eligible in FY20 and thereafter based on the proposed legislation. However, all non-citizen members of the United States military are Green Card Holders (Permanent Residents) and able to petition for permanent residency for their children. Students who graduate from high school in the state with "permanent resident" status meet the current TOPS U. S. citizenship requirement. As such, there should be very few students who obtain TOPS eligibility per the proposed legislation compared to current law.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

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| <u>Senate</u> | <u>Dual Referral Rules</u> | <u>House</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)(2) >= \$500,000 Rev. Red. to State {H & S} |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H} | | | <input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S} |

Evan Brasseaux

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