

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



Fiscal Note On: **HB 138** HLS 20RS 268  
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**  
 Opp. Chamb. Action:  
 Proposed Amd.:  
 Sub. Bill For.:

<b>Date:</b> March 11, 2020 2:31 PM	<b>Author:</b> WRIGHT
<b>Dept./Agy.:</b> Education	<b>Analyst:</b> Tim Mathis
<b>Subject:</b> Special Education	

EDUCATION/SPECIAL OR INCREASE GF EX See Note Page 1 of 1

Requires the use of video cameras in classrooms where special education services are provided to certain students with exceptionalities

Proposed law requires public school governing authorities to adopt policies for the installation and operation of cameras in self-contained special education classrooms, upon the written request of a parent. Such policies shall provide for classroom placement, written notice to teachers, staff, students, parents, and visitors, staff training, retention of recordings for at least one month, and redaction of students other than the parent's child. Provides for implementation only when funds are appropriated for such purpose.

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
State Gen. Fd.	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
<b>Annual Total</b>						
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>5 -YEAR TOTAL</b>
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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 an indeterminable increase in state funds to the extent appropriations are made to fund the purchase and installation of cameras in classrooms where students receive special education services. There will be indeterminable increases in expenditures for local school districts and charter schools, as well as state operated public schools, to comply with this measure. It is not clear whether the total cost of implementation will be borne by a state appropriation, as there are ongoing costs beyond the initial purchase and installation of cameras.

The LFO obtained information from school administrators in Texas who implemented similar requirements pursuant to legislation adopted there in 2015. They reported an average cost per classroom of approximately \$5,000 for equipment acquisitions and installation. This does not include staff resources required to provide notification and track viewing requests as allowed by law. The number of cameras per classroom is determined by size and room configuration, but can require between two and four cameras per classroom. New cameras were required as existing security cameras did not meet the criteria established in law. Additionally, these costs do not include the retention and redaction requirements.

The proposed bill would require districts to retain recordings for at least one month, and upon viewing request by an authorized individual, to redact footage of students other than the parent's child. Some districts may be able to meet these requirements with existing technology and staff, while others will incur costs for software/hardware purchases and upgrades and increased staff hours. Costs will vary for individual districts based on the size of the district and existing resources.

According to the Department of Education (LDE) *2017-18 Louisiana Special Education Data Profile*, there are over 115,000 special education students. Of those, approximately 10%, or 11,500 students receive the majority of their instruction inside a self-contained classroom. Assuming a classroom size averaging 7 students would equate to over 1,600 classrooms. **At an average of \$5,000 per classroom, this would increase expenditures by \$8 M.** However, because the cameras would only be installed upon the written request of a parent, it is not likely that every self-contained classroom would require the cameras. The LFO has no way of estimating the number of parents who would potentially make this request but anticipates the number could be significant over time.

**REVENUE EXPLANATION**

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

Senate Dual Referral Rules  
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}  
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House  
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}  
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

*Evan Brasseaux*  
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**Staff Director**