LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 100** HLS 11RS 533
Bill Text Version: **ENGROSSED**
Opp. Chamb. Action:
Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 12, 2011 6:10 AM
Author: CARTER
Dept./Agy.: Education
Subject: School readiness assessments
Analyst: Alan M. Boxberger

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT EG +$405,610 GF EX See Note
Provides relative to school readiness assessment

Present law directs each city and parish school system to require that every child entering kindergarten for the first time be given a nationally recognized readiness screening, that the results be used in placement and for planning instruction (including integration in the system's pupil progression plan), and that the instrument include the capacity to measure a student's proficiency in vision and hearing. The proposed legislation changes the standard for the instrument used to a valid and reliable readiness assessment instead of a readiness screening, deletes the provision relative to integration in the pupil progression plan, and deletes the requirement that a vision and hearing screening be part of the assessment for kindergarten. The legislation is to become effective in the 2012-13 school year subject to the availability of funds.

The language of current statute allows for several different assessments to be used statewide. Passage of this legislation would provide for one uniform assessment to measure kindergarten readiness.

EXPENDITURES	**2011-12**	**2012-13**	**2013-14**	**2014-15**	**2015-16**	**5 -YEAR TOTAL**
State Gen. Fd.	$405,610	$0	$0	$0	$0	**$405,610**
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	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	**$0**
Annual Total	**$405,610**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$405,610**

REVENUES	**2011-12**	**2012-13**	**2013-14**	**2014-15**	**2015-16**	**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	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	**$0**
Annual Total	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Passage of this legislation will result in a one-time expenditure to purchase an assessment instrument for each kindergarten class. The Department of Education states that an appropriate readiness assessment instrument is currently in use in some school systems, the Developing Skills Checklist (DSC). Of the 2,180 kindergarten classes in the state, 1,317 currently utilize the DSC. Passage of this legislation would require purchase of an additional 863 test kits. The Department anticipates that BESE will approve this instrument in the near future to be used as the statewide standard.

The estimated cost to purchase 863 needed test kits totals $405,610 (863 kits at $470 each). Training in test administration will be provided at no extra cost to the state or districts.

NOTE: If in the event that the Developing Skills Checklist should not be adopted by BESE and this legislation passes, the cost would change proportionate to the number of tests needed for statewide adoption (2,180 kindergarten classes) multiplied by the cost of an alternate instrument (indeterminate).

Although the assessment will be first implemented for kindergarten students enrolling for the 2012-13 calendar year, the instrument must be purchased prior to June 30, 2012, to allow time for distribution and training for test administrators. Additional expenditures regarding this assessment instrument are not anticipated in subsequent fiscal years.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

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

Senate Dual Referral Rules House

[x] 13.5.1 >= $100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}
[ ] 13.5.2 >= $500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S&H}
[x] 6.8(F)1 >= $500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S}
6.8(F)2 >= $100,000 Annual SGF Cost {H&S}
[ ] 6.8(G) >= $500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Evan Brasseaux
Evan Brasseaux
Staff Director