



LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note On: **HB 373** HLS 11RS 634
Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:
Sub. Bill For.:

Date: May 17, 2011	3:24 PM	Author: GUINN
Dept./Agy.: Education		
Subject: Kindergarten instruction and age requirements		Analyst: Alan M. Boxberger

STUDENT/SCH ATTENDANCE OR SEE FISC NOTE Page 1 of 1
Provides relative to prekindergarten instruction and age requirements at public and nonpublic elementary schools

The proposed legislation authorizes nonpublic elementary schools to develop and offer pre-kindergarten instruction as is allowed in public schools. The legislation requires a child to be six years old on or before September 30 of the calendar year in which the school year begins to enter first grade in both public and private schools. This requirement exists in current statute for public schools but will be a new for nonpublic elementary schools. For both public and private schools, the proposed legislation provides that the minimum age for entry into a pre-kindergarten program shall be three years younger than the minimum age to enter first grade, thus providing that a child may enter at the age of three.

EXPENDITURES	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Federal Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental expenditures as a result of this measure. The Department of Education and the Department of Children and Family Services will incur indeterminate but insignificant costs associated with rule changes.

This legislation does not mandate a pre-kindergarten program for three year olds. It authorizes the creation of a program at the option of local public school districts or nonpublic elementary schools. To the extent that any school or system creates such a program, it would incur increased costs and the need to identify an alternate means of financing the program. Traditional pre-kindergarten programs for four year olds are funded through state allocations from the legislature, with funds deposited into the LA4 Program from various sources including the State General Fund, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and federal funds and grants.

Funds deposited into LA4 cannot be used to provide services to children under the age of four under existing law. Some school systems utilize grants from the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund - 8(g) to support or supplement pre-kindergarten programs. As with LA4, 8(g) funds cannot be used for children under the age of four years. Some school systems utilize federal Title 1 allocations to fund or partially fund pre-kindergarten programs. Title 1 funds are allocations or grants to schools or school districts with a high percentage of students from low-income families. These funds could be used for a three year old pre-kindergarten program but would require the school to prioritize its finite allocation of Title 1 funds to do so. The Legislative Fiscal Office does not anticipate additional TANF funds would be available for use by three year old programs, as the allocation of those funds are insufficient to fully fund the state’s four year old pre-kindergarten program at the current time.

Public and nonpublic schools could identify or authorize local revenues, grants, donations or tuition financing in order to fund a pre-kindergarten program for three year olds.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

To the degree that existing programs providing services to three year olds are converted into recognized pre-kindergarten programs, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) would cease licensure activities related to those facilities. Any fee revenue generated by DCFS would no longer be collected. DCFS reports the anticipated impact to be insignificant. Local school systems could choose to identify local funding options or charge tuition based fees to fund pre-kindergarten programs for three years old.

<u>Senate</u>	<u>Dual Referral Rules</u>	<u>House</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S&H}		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)1 >= \$500,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S}	<div>Evan Brasseaux</div> <div>Evan Brasseaux</div> <div>Staff Director</div>
		<input type="checkbox"/> 6.8(F)2 >= \$100,000 Annual SGF Cost {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}	