



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: S.B. 241 of the 131st G.A.

Date: December 22, 2015

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sen. LaRose

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: Yes

Contents: Provision of comprehensive education services

State Fiscal Highlights

- Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, the bill requires the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to include on each school district's report card information on the number of educational service personnel employed in seven different position categories as well as recognition for each school district that employs at least five educational service personnel for every 1,000 students across those position categories. These provisions may result in additional administrative costs for ODE.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- The bill requires every traditional school district to provide students in grades K-12 with an education that includes fine arts, music, and physical education, as well as the comprehensive services of counselors, librarians or library media specialists, school nurses, and school social workers. This may require some school districts to hire or contract for additional educational service personnel in order to provide the comprehensive services prescribed by the bill. According to data from ODE, average salaries for these positions range from \$49,000 to \$63,000.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Education and comprehensive services

The bill requires every city, exempted village, and local school district to provide students in grades K-12 with an education that includes fine arts, music, and physical education, as well as the comprehensive services of counselors, librarians or library media specialists, school nurses, and school social workers. Continuing law already requires each district's general curriculum to include both "fine arts, including music" and physical education. In order to provide such an education, the bill specifies that a district may employ education professionals in seven categories, which are (1) teacher of fine arts, (2) music teacher, (3) physical education teacher, (4) counselor, (5) librarian or library media specialist, (6) school nurse, and (7) school social worker. Under the bill, each education professional employed in the categories of fine arts, music, or physical education must hold a license issued by the State Board of Education in the appropriate subject area and grade level. Education professionals in the other categories must hold a license in the appropriate content area or specialty.

Some school districts may have to hire or contract for additional educational service personnel in these categories in order to provide students with the comprehensive services required under the bill. The cost will depend on the circumstances facing each school district and how districts choose to implement the bill. As a point of reference, the table below lists the statewide average salaries for teachers and certain other educational service personnel in traditional school districts according to Ohio Department of Education (ODE) data for FY 2014, the latest available. There could be additional costs for fringe benefits.

Teacher and Selected Educational Service Personnel Average Salaries, 2013-2014 School Year	
Position	Average Salary
Counselor	\$60,390
Librarian/Media	\$63,428
Registered Nurse	\$52,222
Social Worker	\$49,126
Teacher	\$57,863

Report card modifications

Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, the bill requires ODE to include on each district's report card the number of education professionals employed for every 1,000 students in the seven positions specified under the bill. If a district has less than 1,000 students, the district's report card will include the total number of education professionals employed in each position.

The bill also requires the State Board to develop a system to recognize school districts that employ education professionals in at least five of the seven specified positions for every 1,000 students, beginning with report cards for the 2015-2016 school year. If a district has fewer than 1,000 students, in order to receive the recognition, the district must employ education professionals in at least five of the seven positions. These report card modifications may increase the administrative costs for ODE and the State Board.

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