



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL: 441

PRINTER'S NO: 2002

PRIME SPONSOR: Vance

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2009/10	FY 2010/11
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	\$0	See analysis

OVERVIEW:

Senate Bill 441 amends the Public School Code of 1949 as it pertains to school health services, medical examinations of teachers and other persons, education empowerment, control in certain school districts and for expiration. Specifically, the bill will enact the following:

REPORTS CARDS AND DATA

- Requires the Department of Education (PDE) to create a state report card and to publish the report card to its website. The report card shall include adequate yearly progress (AYP) and academic performance target results for each school district, as well as a list of individual schools, including charter, cyber charter and vocational-technical schools, scoring within the lowest 5% in math or reading on the most recent PSSA or equivalent exam. Schools in a first class school district are exempt.
- Requires PDE to publish statistical performance data for both school districts and individual schools from the Pennsylvania Value Added Assessment System (PVAAS). This assessment system is an analysis of the results of the PSSA or equivalent exam.
- Within 30 days of a school being identified by PDE as scoring in the lowest 5% in math or reading on its most recent test assessment, the district is required to publish this information on its website. The district must also publish the school's PVAAS data and notify parents that their children may transfer to another school in the same district, and outline the transfer process.

SCHOOL HEALTH/MEDICAL EXAMS

- Expands the list of individuals qualified to certify mental and physical fitness of a teacher to include licensed or certified physicians' assistants and certified registered nurse practitioners. Precludes the granting of a teacher's certification for individuals who fail to submit a certificate, do not have good moral character, or engage in illegal use of controlled substances or alcoholic beverages.

TEACHING CERTIFICATES

- Adds "residency certificate" and "intern certificate" to the type of certificates that qualify a person to teach in the Commonwealth.
- Grants additional power to PDE with regard to post-baccalaureate certification programs

- Changes the requirements under administrative certificate programs and expands eligibility for out-of-state teaching certificates
- Waives the requirements under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 354 relating to preparation of professional education for those candidates who already hold a bachelor's degree

EMPOWERMENT and HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

Continues the expiration of the Article XVII-B of the public school code known as the Empowerment Act, with the following exceptions:

- Continuation of Section 1704-B, pertaining to Board of School Directors, until June 30, 2012
- Reauthorizes the board of control in section 1707-B until June 30, 2013 with the following changes:
 - Beginning July 1, 2010, 5 of the 7 members shall be appointed by the mayor of Harrisburg and 2 of the 7 shall be members of the elected school board. One member of the board of control appointed by the mayor must be a resident of Dauphin County, but not a resident of Harrisburg School District. Remaining members must be residents of the school district.
 - On December 1 following the first general election after the board of control has been in place for at least 12 months, 4 of the 7 members shall be appointed by the mayor and 3 members shall be of the elected school board. The mayor shall approve one of the elected board appointees
 - On December 1 following the second general election after the board of control has been in place for at least 12 months, 3 of the 7 members shall be appointed by the mayor and 4 members shall be of the elected school board. The mayor shall approve two of the elected board appointees

This act shall take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS:

Sections of the bill pertaining to school health/medical exams, teaching certificates, empowerment and Harrisburg School District have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds. For the addition of the PVAAS requirements in the report cards and data section, PDE has estimated a cost of \$1,000,000 over the next 12 to 18 months. The majority of this cost will be incurred in the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

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General Note and Disclaimer: *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*