



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 198

PRINTERS NO. 3630

PRIME SPONSOR: Neilson

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2013/14	FY 2014/15
General Fund	See "Fiscal Impact" below.	

SUMMARY: House Bill 198 amends the Public School Code concerning a dyslexia and early literacy intervention pilot program. It would take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS: This legislation would establish a Dyslexia and Early Literacy Intervention Pilot Program within the Department of Education. The overall purpose of the program is to provide evidence-based early screening and intervention services for children with risk factors for early reading deficiencies and dyslexia. Additionally, it would help evaluate the effectiveness of early reading assistance programs for children with risk factors for early reading deficiencies and dyslexia and evaluate whether those programs can reduce future special education costs. Through the pilot program, the Department will select at least three school districts to participate. To be considered, a school district must submit a proposal to the Department identifying an evidence-based core reading program, an evidence-based method of screening all kindergarten students, evidence-based intervention programs, and a methodology for evaluating the effects of the program on the students' identified risk factors. The Department of Education must consult with the International Dyslexia Association, or any other recognized organization that specializes in and has expertise with the scientific basis of dyslexia and its intervention, in establishing, operating, and evaluating the pilot program. The Department must also develop guidelines and procedures for the program as outlined in the bill.

FISCAL IMPACT: The Department of Education estimates enactment of this legislation will cost \$122,000 annually for salary, benefits, and operational costs related to administration of the pilot program for the three to four years needed for its completion. In addition, it is estimated there will be a one-time cost of \$50,000 for the Department to contract with a nationally recognized organization to evaluate the pilot program and review its effectiveness. The bill requires the Department to apply for Federal, private and other non-State funds and use funds appropriated or otherwise made available for the pilot program. Exactly how much in state funds will be required for the program will depend upon the Department's success in obtaining funds from non-state sources.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 11, 2014

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.