

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 58 - HB 94

March 20, 2019

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates the “Tennessee Outdoor Education and Recreation Grant Program”, effective January 1, 2020, for the purpose of providing grant awards for outdoor educational opportunities for qualifying public agencies, non-profit organizations, schools, and community-based programs. Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE), with input from the Executive Director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), to establish and administer the program. Requires the program to be phased in with schools and students with the greatest needs; and to focus on students who qualify for free and reduced lunches and those who are academically at-risk. Requires the creation of a separate account within the Department of Treasury to be known as the Outdoor Education and Recreation Program Account to be funded by General Assembly appropriations, gifts, grants, and other donations for the purpose of funding the program.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures –
\$28,000/FY19-20/General Fund
\$56,000/FY20-21 and Subsequent Years/Outdoor Education
and Recreation Program Account

Other Fiscal Impact - To the extent state funds are deposited to and expended from the newly-created Outdoor Education and Recreation Program Account (OERPA), there will be a shift of use for such state funding from other general purposes of state government to the purposes specified in this legislation.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (005858): Deletes all language after the enacting clause and rewrites the bill such that the substantive changes are to: (1) create a task force to study and report on the feasibility and benefits of creating the Tennessee Outdoor Education and Recreation Grant Program; (2) require the task force to be comprised of six members from various departments represented by the Commissioner, Executive Director, or designee from each department; (3) require the Commissioner from the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) or the Commissioner’s designee to serve as chair of the task force and to call the first meeting; (4) require TDEC to provide support services to the task force and authorizes TDEC to request and receive assistance from any department, agency, or entity of state government upon request; (5) prohibit the task force members from receiving compensation or reimbursement for travel expenses; (6) require the task force to submit a report of its findings

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and recommendations to the Speakers of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Governor by July 1, 2020; and (7) require the task force to expire on July 1, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

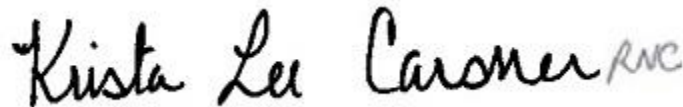
NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Members of the task force and any departments providing assistance will be able to serve and comply with the proposed legislation using existing resources without a significant increase in expenditures.
- TDEC will be able to amend its policies in accordance with the provisions of this legislation during the normal course of business; therefore, any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- No significant impact to state or local operations.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Handwritten signature of Krista Lee Carsner in black ink.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/alh