TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 2509 - HB 2679

March 11, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (013183): Extends the Department of Education's (DOE's) School Turnaround Pilot Program (pilot program) indefinitely beyond the 2024-25 school year. Increases, from five to fifteen, the number of schools that may participate in the pilot program. Prohibits the DOE from requiring a school in need of intervention that exits the pilot program to continue implementing the school turnaround plan developed by the school. Prohibits a local board of education from requiring a priority school designated by the DOE as a school in need of intervention to remain in the pilot program, if the school meets certain criteria.

Authorizes the DOE to select additional schools to participate in the pilot program if one or more schools in need of intervention exit the pilot program after participating in the pilot program for four school years or meet criteria, provided, that no more than 15 schools may participate in the pilot program.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

Increase State Expenditures – \$1,357,500/FY24-25 Exceeds \$1,982,500/FY25-26 and Subsequent Years

Other Fiscal Impact – Schools will receive an additional \$500,000 for meeting the pilot program's exit criteria, resulting in an increase in state expenditures. However, the extent and timing of any such schools meeting the exit criteria is unknown. Therefore, a precise fiscal impact cannot be estimated with certainty.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- DOE provides grants in the amount of \$125,000 per school each year to facilitate the implementation of school turnaround plans.
- Each participating school receives an additional \$125,000 per year of participation upon meeting the program's exit criteria.
- It is estimated that the cost for a local board of education to create a turnaround committee will result in local expenditures of \$5,000 per school. It is assumed that such expenditures will be funded with state grants to local boards of education.
- The proposed legislation requires DOE to select up to 10 additional priority schools in need of intervention to participate in the pilot program for a period of four years.

- It is assumed that all schools currently participating in the pilot program will exit the program at the end of FY24-25.
- The DOE will award 10 grants to priority schools in FY24-25 and five additional grants in FY25-26.
- It is assumed that 15 schools will be in the pilot program for each year that the program is in operation.
- The increase in state expenditures is estimated as follows:
 - \$1,250,000 (10 x \$125,000) in FY24-25; and
 - \$1,875,000 [\$1,250,000 + (5 x \$125,000)] in FY25-26 and subsequent years.
- Due to the expansion from 5 to 15 schools, DOE's Division of School Turnaround will require one additional position, beginning in FY24-25:

Title	Salary	Benefits	Positions	Total
Education Consultant 4	\$85,704	\$21,826	1	\$107,530

- The total increase in state expenditures is estimated as follows:
 - \$1,357,530 (\$1,250,000 + \$107,530) in FY24-25; and
 - \$1,982,530 (\$1,875,000 + \$107,530) in FY25-26 and subsequent years.
- It is assumed that each school will remain in the pilot program until it reaches exit criteria. Upon successfully meeting exit criteria, schools will receive an additional \$500,000 and DOE will select a replacement school to participate in the program.
- However, the extent and timing of any such schools meeting the exit criteria is unknown. Therefore, a precise increase in state expenditures cannot be estimated with certainty.

CERTIFICATION:

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

Krista Lee Caroner

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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