

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB187

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Subramanyam

3. **Committee:** Rules

4. **Title:** Department of Education; plan to revise special education staffing requirements; report.

5. **Summary:** Directs the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and any other individuals with expertise in special education as the Department of Education deems appropriate, to develop a plan for revised special education staffing requirements that addresses staffing needs of individual school divisions and the needs of students who receive special education and aims to improve special education teacher recruitment and retention. The bill requires the Department of Education to submit a report on such plan to the Governor, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the House Committee on Education by November 1, 2024.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 118.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, see Item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Education (DOE) does not currently have staff time and expertise to complete the work necessary to develop the plan. DOE estimates that \$100,000 would be required in one-time general fund support in FY2025 to hire a consultant to perform this work. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services can absorb any costs to work with DOE on the report and plan.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Education, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. **Other Comments:** DOE anticipates that in order to ensure an accurate and comprehensive data collection, a report due date of November 1, 2024, may not be able to be met.