

FISCAL NOTE

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
NON-ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACT			
Anticipated Expenditure (decrease)			
SCHOOL FOUNDATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT	(\$9,300,000)		

Source of expenditure (decrease):

This bill repeals W.S. 21-3-314(a)(i)(C) and (iii), statutory provisions of the charter school law that provide for a charter school’s average daily membership (ADM) to be multiplied by two (2) in the first year of operation. The repeal of these statutes results in an estimated expenditure decrease to the School Foundation Program Account of \$9.3 million in FY 2024 in the form of a reduction to the School Foundation Program guarantee and subsequent entitlement payments to school districts. The State Loan and Investment Board approved three new charter schools to operate beginning school year 2023-2024. Any fiscal impact beyond FY 2024 is indeterminable due to the unknown number of charter schools that may be approved by the State Loan and Investment Board or a school district.

This bill also amends W.S. 21-3-314(c)(i) and creates a new paragraph (iv) that ensures charter schools are entitled to 100 percent of the amount expended by the charter school that is eligible for reimbursement under the transportation (W.S. 21-13-320) and special education (W.S. 21-13-321) programs. The fiscal impact in the form of an expenditure increase is indeterminable due to the unknown circumstances in how these three newly approved charter schools or current charter schools will provide for these programs and will also be dependent upon the characteristics of the students enrolled in the charter schools. Further, a school district and charter school may agree upon these services to be provided by the district pursuant to W.S. 21-3-314(d).

Assumptions:

The Legislative Service Office presumes in school year 2023-2024, 50 percent of the students that enroll in two of the new charter schools and 10 percent of the students in one of the new charter schools, are students previously not enrolled in these public school districts. The estimated ADM utilizes anticipated enrollments cited in the three charter school applications approved by the State Loan and Investment Board.

The above estimates were determined through the use of forecast K-12 education funding models prepared by the Legislative Service Office, the October 2022 Consensus Revenue Estimating Group forecast for local school district revenues, and are based on the most recent available data for the 2022-2023 school year.

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