

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING IMPLEMENTING MEDIA LITERACY IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.

Prime Sponsors: Representative Cutter

JBC Analyst: Craig Harper

Phone: 303-866-3481

Date Prepared: April 10, 2019

Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 03/04/19.

XXX	No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared
	Non-Concurrence: JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill

Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee

Amendment	Description
J.002	Staff-prepared appropriation amendment
L.012/J.003	Bill sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact <i>and</i> appropriation

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

J.002 Staff has prepared amendment **J.002** (attached) to add a provision appropriating \$59,456 General Fund to the Department of Education for FY 2019-20.

L.012 and J.003

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.012** (attached) amends the Education Committee Report to: (1) require the Department of Education to hire a consultant to perform the research and analysis necessary to inform the report required by the bill; (2) clarify what must be in the report required by the bill; and (3) eliminate the Governor's appointment of four advisory committee members (under amendment L.012, the Commissioner of Education will appoint all of the committee members). Hiring a consultant to conduct the research and analysis reduces both the number of in-person meetings of the Media Literacy Advisory Committee (from 8 meetings assumed in the Revised Fiscal Note to a single in-person meeting with

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amendment L.012). The reduced number of meetings decreases the anticipated facilitation costs as well as the costs associated with substitute teacher coverage, committee member travel, venue rental, and catering. As reflected in the following table, Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree that the amendment reduces the General Fund appropriation required by the bill in FY 2019-20 from \$59,456 anticipated in the Revised Fiscal Note to \$19,816 with amendment L.012. Staff has prepared amendment **J.003** (attached) to add a provision appropriating \$19,816 General Fund to the Department of Education for FY 2019-20. **If the Committee adopts amendment L.012 it should also adopt amendment J.003 and should not adopt amendment J.002.**

Activity	Revised Fiscal Note	With Amendment L.012
Contract research, facilitation, report writing	\$32,000	\$18,000
Committee member travel expenses	18,656	916
Meeting venue/catering	5,200	450
Substitute teacher coverage	3,600	450
Total	\$59,456	\$19,816

Points to Consider

General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2019-20 based on the March 2019 Legislative Council Staff revenue forecast. The budget package leaves approximately \$65.2 million General Fund unallocated. Thus, the General Assembly could appropriate up to \$60.8 million General Fund to fund 2019 legislation and maintain a 7.25 percent General Fund reserve. This bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$59,456 for FY 2019-20, reducing the excess General Fund reserve by \$63,767. With the adoption of amendment L.012, the bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$19,816 for FY 2019-20, reducing the General Fund reserve by \$21,523.