

**JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis**  
**House Appropriations Committee**

Concerning second language diploma endorsements for graduating high school students.

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**Prime Sponsors:**

Representative Garcia; Velasco  
Senator Cutter

**Date Prepared:**

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**JBC Analyst:**

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**Fiscal Impacts**

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Appropriation Required, Amendments in Packet

General Fund Impact

**Fiscal Note Status**

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The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 01/27/26.

**No Change:** Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill.

The Education Committee Report (02/05/26) includes amendments to the bill, but Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree that the amendments do not change the bill’s fiscal impact.

**Amendments in This Packet**

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J.001 Staff-prepared appropriation amendment

L.002 Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact and appropriation

**Current Appropriations Clause in Bill**

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

**Description of Amendments in This Packet**

**J.001**

Staff amendment **J.001** (attached) appropriates a total of \$29,144 General Fund to the Department of Education for FY 2026-27. The appropriation reflects 0.3 FTE.

## L.002

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.002** (attached) eliminates the requirement that the Department of Education certify an entity to authorize the biliteracy or bilingualism endorsement. Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff concur that this change eliminates the bill's fiscal impact.

**The Committee should adopt either J.001 or L.002, but not both.**

## Points to Consider

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The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2026-27 based on the March 2026 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$57.3 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 15.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders.

### General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2026 Legislation

Item	FY 2026-27
SB 26-149 (Pathways for Individuals with Mental Health Disorders)	23,222,868
Competency services	20,000,000
Potential prison capacity supplemental	5,900,000
Applied Behavioral Analysis Licensing	5,000,000
County Administration shared services	3,100,000
Medicaid Working Group	500,000
HB 26-1331 (Modify 2026 Interim Committees)	-396,469
<b>Total - Placeholders for other legislation</b>	<b>\$57,326,399</b>

## General Fund Impact

If staff amendment **J.001** is adopted, this bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$29,144 for FY 2026-27, reducing the \$57.3 million set aside by the same amount.

If sponsor amendment **L.002** is adopted, the bill has no fiscal impact.