



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 470

January Session, 2003

Substitute House Bill No. 6610

House of Representatives, April 22, 2003

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. FELTMAN of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A PILOT PROGRAM OF NEUROFEEDBACK THERAPY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) The Department of Public
2 Health, in consultation with the Department of Education, may
3 establish, within available appropriations, a neurofeedback pilot
4 program for the 2003-2004 school year for forty elementary school
5 students. The pilot program shall (1) operate for a period of one year in
6 a school district of a town not below the ninety-fifth percentile when
7 all towns are ranked from high to low based on the amount of special
8 education funding each town receives from the state, and (2) be
9 administered by a licensed psychologist trained in neurofeedback
10 therapy. Local or regional boards of education interested in
11 participating in the pilot program shall apply to the Department of
12 Public Health at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of
13 Public Health prescribes. Not later than April 1, 2004, the
14 commissioner shall provide a preliminary report, in accordance with

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$
Dept. of Education, Dept. of Public Health	GF - Cost	\$150,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill will result in a combined cost of approximately \$150,000 to the Departments of Education and Public Health. The bill would require the Departments of Education and Public Health to evaluate the value, efficacy and cost of neurofeedback in the treatment of certain children who are eligible for special education and related services. Neither agency has the personnel, resources or flexibility to perform this study and evaluation and each would therefore have to hire new personnel or contract-out the study. The governor’s currently recommended budget for FY 04 does not contain the resources to fulfill the requirements of the bill.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6610

AN ACT CONCERNING A PILOT PROGRAM OF NEUROFEEDBACK THERAPY

SUMMARY:

This bill allows the Department of Public Health (DPH), in consultation with the Department of Education and within available appropriations, to establish a neurofeedback pilot program for 40 elementary school students for the 2003-04 school year. It requires the program to (1) operate for one year in a school district that ranks in the top 5% of all towns in state special education funding and (2) be administered by a licensed psychologist trained in neurofeedback therapy.

The bill directs school boards interested in participating in the program to apply to DPH as that agency's commissioner prescribes. It requires the commissioner to provide to the Education and Public Health committees a preliminary report on the program by April 1, 2004. He must also report to those committees on the completed pilot program by September 1, 2004.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 25 Nay 1

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 0