



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 277

January Session, 2023

House Bill No. 6758

House of Representatives, March 28, 2023

The Committee on Education reported through REP. CURREY of the 11th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING STAFFING FOR CERTAIN ROLES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The Commissioner of
2 Education shall employ not fewer than five special education evaluators
3 for the purpose of reviewing the special education services provided by
4 local and regional boards of education and evaluating complaints
5 related to such services.

6 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The Commissioner of Education
7 shall employ at least one curriculum coordinator to provide assistance
8 and curriculum materials to local and regional boards of education for
9 the implementation of the courses of study set forth in subsection (d) of
10 section 10-16b of the general statutes, in accordance with sections 10-
11 16pp, 10-16qq, 10-16ss to 10-16ww, inclusive, and 10-18f of the general
12 statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

ED *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	Up to 604,302	Up to 619,410
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	Up to 258,762	Up to 265,231

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a cost to the State Department of Education annually beginning in FY 24 by requiring the agency to employ five special education evaluators and one curriculum coordinator. These costs in FY 24 could range up to \$604,302 for salary and \$258,762 for fringe benefits for six positions, for a total General Fund cost of \$863,064. In FY 25, the total cost is expected to be \$884,641.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to future contractual wage increases and changes in fringe benefits coverage.

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 42.82% of payroll in FY 24.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6758*****AN ACT CONCERNING STAFFING FOR CERTAIN ROLES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the education commissioner to employ at least five special education evaluators to (1) review the special education services local and regional boards of education provide and (2) evaluate complaints related to these services.

The bill also requires the commissioner to employ at least one curriculum coordinator. It requires the coordinator to provide curriculum materials and assist and encourage local and regional boards of education to include certain subject areas when developing instructional programs.

The bill requires the coordinator to assist with a number of subject areas in existing law, including:

1. financial literacy in high school,
2. cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) as part of the health and safety curriculum,
3. African American and black studies and Puerto Rican and Latino studies as part of the curriculum,
4. black and Latino studies course offered in high school,
5. Native American studies as part of the social studies curriculum,
6. Asian American and Pacific Islander studies as part of the social studies curriculum (school years beginning on or after July 1,

2025), and

7. Holocaust and genocide education and awareness as part of the social studies curriculum.

These subject areas overlap with many of the subjects in the statutorily required program of instruction that all districts must provide (see BACKGROUND)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Required Program of Instruction

By law, the required program of instruction includes, among other subjects, the arts; health and safety, including CPR instruction; language arts, including reading and writing; mathematics; physical education; science; and social studies, including citizenship, geography, government, history, Holocaust and genocide awareness, African American and black studies, Puerto Rican and Latino studies, Native American studies, and Asian American and Pacific Islander studies (CGS § 10-16b). (A separate law specifies the minimum high school graduation requirements.)

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 39 Nay 2 (03/10/2023)