

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 54th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2625
Version:	SA to EHB 2625
Request Number:	N/A
Author:	Rep. Henke, et al.
Date:	5/6/2014
Impact:	Minimal cost of @ \$306,666-Reading Specialists
	Additional costs for certain intensive reading remediation and instruction

Research Analysis

The SA for HB 2625 requires schools districts to immediately begin a student reading portfolio for those students that are identified as having a reading deficiency at any point during their third grade year. Students that score at the limited knowledge level on the third grade reading exam may qualify for automatic promotion to the fourth grade. Prior to promotion, the parent(s) or guardian(s) must be informed of their child's score and give them the option to retain them. If a child is promoted then an intensive remediation plan will be developed by the student reading proficiency team.

If a student does not satisfy proficiency requirements by the end of the third grade, either through an assessment or their student portfolio, and they are not subject to a good cause exemption, then the student will be ineligible for automatic promotion. For the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years, the student will be evaluated by the proficiency team for probationary promotion to the fourth grade. The superintendent must approve the team's recommendation for promotion and the team must continue to review the student's reading performance until they demonstrate proficiency. For the 2015-2016 school year, students that do not demonstrate proficiency and do not qualify for a good cause exemption will be retained in the third grade and provided intensive instructional service and supports. School districts must annually report the number of students promoted to the fourth grade. Following the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 school years, school districts must report the number of students promoted to a subsequent grade. The department of education must provide a copy of the report to the Governor, Secretary of Education, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to the respective chairs of each chambers committee responsible for common education policy. Lastly, school districts may apply the principles of the student reading proficiency team to grades kindergarten through the second grade.

Prepared By: Scott Tohlen

Fiscal Analysis

State Department of Education personnel provide that at a minimum the specified requirement of a certified reading specialist on a Student Reading Proficiency Team will cost around \$306,666. Approximately 110 school districts employee full-time Remediation Specialists. The cost for 400 school districts to employ or contract with a reading specialist is approximately \$306,666 as calculated with an average salary of \$46,000 and certain contract requirements and hours.

In addition, specified required intensive remediation in reading and instructional services are expected to cost additional funds.

Prepared By: Andrea Kearney

Other Considerations

None at this time.

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