BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 55th Legislature

Bill No.:

Version:

Request Number:

Author:

Date:

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SB 136

Engrossed

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Rep. Nelson

3/30/2015

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Research Analysis

SB 136 provides for the State Virtual Charter School Board, instead of the State Board of Education, to adopt rules to provide for the implementation of supplemental online courses. Additionally, the State Virtual Charter School Board is tasked with:

- Establishing a process to review and certify supplemental online courses to ensure they are aligned with curricular standards;
- Negotiate and enter into contracts with supplemental online course providers; and
- Make available to school districts certified supplemental online course with special emphasis
 in science, technology, engineering, and math, foreign language, and advanced placement
 courses.

Prepared By: Scott Tohlen

Fiscal Analysis

ESB 136 relates to the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board and allows for the establishment of a process to review and certify supplemental online courses to ensure alignment with certain curricular standards, for negotiation and entering into certain contracts, and to make available to school districts specified certified supplemental online courses.

State Department of Education personnel provide that the Board does not have current staff to assume these duties, and therefore will be required to hire staff or contract with the State Department of Education to utilize existing staff assigned to the program. The Board, as a charter sponsor, withholds up to 5% of state aid from all the sponsors it charters and will utilize these funds for staff. Cost to employ or contract for staff is estimated to be \$50,000-\$60,000.

Prepared By: Andrea Kearney

Other Considerations

None