

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 3545 – SB 3427

May 27, 2010

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS (016541, 016721, 019070): Amendment 016541 deletes all language after the enacting clause of the original bill. Requires each local board of education to develop a policy whereby student Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) scores in grades three through eight will compose at least 15 percent but no more than 25 percent of a student's final grade in math, reading/language arts, science, and social studies. These policies shall utilize performance levels as determined by the State Board of Education to be developed by the spring semester of 2011. Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year and subsequent years, requires a TCAP testing window of two weeks. This window shall be no earlier than the first Monday on or after April 22. Such tests must be given after 150 days of instruction. Grants the Commissioner of Education the authority to adjust the testing window for multiple reasons including natural disaster, prolonged inclement weather, or outbreak of illness. Amendment 016721 makes a technical correction to amendment 016541, changing references to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-614 to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-614. Amendment 019070 requires LEAs beginning their school years on or before the second Monday in August to test during the first week of the testing window.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$50,000/One-Time
\$450,000/Recurring

Increase Local Expenditures - \$39,510,000/One-Time
\$6,685,000/Recurring*

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

Increase Local Expenditures – Not Significant

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Assumptions applied to amendments:

- According to the Department of Education (DOE), amendment 019070 will eliminate the need for state Web site and LEA technology upgrades. DOE will have a year to make adjustments to accommodate the new later testing window. According to DOE, the Department can meet the requirements of the bill as amended within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- A Web site for quickscore reporting will not be created and LEA technology upgrades will not occur as a result of the bill as amended. Any increase in state or local expenditures is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James W. White, Executive Director

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