

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 653 - SB 909

March 20, 2019

SUMMARY OF BILL: Changes, from 1:3,000 students to 1:700 students, the ratio for funding full-time public school nurse positions from the Basic Education Program (BEP). Further, changes, from one for each 3,000 students to one for each 700 students, the required ratio for employing school nurses considered sufficient to adequately provide services.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$42,619,500

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$1,000,000*

Assumptions:

- Based on information provided by the Department of Education, changing the funding ratio for nurses from 1:3,000 to 1:700 increases the number of nursing positions generated through the BEP from 355.02 to 1,386.8, for a net increase of approximately 1,032 nursing positions.
- The state share of the BEP will fund approximately \$41,298 per nursing position.
- Re-calculating the FY19-20 BEP, using a nurse to student ratio of 1:700, with a minimum of 1 position per LEA, will result in an increase in state expenditures of \$42,619,536 (1,032 positions x \$41,298).
- The increase in BEP funding will increase the minimum required local match for districts receiving an increase in BEP funding as a result of this bill.
- Most districts are already contributing local funds in excess of the minimum required local match; however, approximately 10-15 districts would need to increase their local contribution in order to meet the increased required local match.
- The mandatory recurring increase to local expenditures is reasonably estimated to exceed \$1,000,000.

**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.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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