

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2002 - SB 2035

February 18, 2020

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the State Board of Education (SBE), in consultation with the Department of Education (DOE), to update and revise the maximum class size and caseload standards for instructional personnel and teachers that develop or implement a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). Authorizes DOE to grant a waiver from the maximum class sizes, average class sizes, or caseload standards. Requires a local education agency's (LEA's) request for a waiver to include workload calculations demonstrating the need for a waiver. Requires LEAs to include certain criteria in a request for a waiver. Requires DOE to grant an LEA a waiver if certain conditions are met.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact - In the event that the SBE sets standards requiring class sizes to be reduced by five students there will be a recurring increase in state expenditures up to \$118,300,000 and a mandatory recurring increase in local matching expenditures up to \$5,494,000.*

Assumptions:

- Current law, Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-1-104 requires SBE and DOE to establish standards to address class sizes in all classrooms that include students with disabilities and students eligible for special education services.
- This legislation will require consideration of additional criteria in establishing class size standards.
- Consideration of additional criteria may lead to a reduction in class size standards.
- The precise decrease in class size standards adopted, if any, by SBE is dependent on multiple unknown factors and cannot be reasonably determined.
- The precise number of waivers issued cannot be reasonably determined.
- In the event that the SBE sets standards requiring class sizes to be reduced by five students, based on information provided by DOE, the fiscal impact will be as follows:
 - A recurring increase in state expenditures of up to \$118,300,000;
 - A mandatory recurring increase in local matching expenditures of up to \$5,494,000.

*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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