



February 21, 2020

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires each Title I public high school to provide at least one driver education course for its students beginning in the 2020-21 school year. Subject to appropriation in the general appropriations act, requires the state to fund at least one driver education course at each Title I public high school. Authorizes a local education agency (LEA) to use Title I funds for the purposes of this section.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$3,460,000/FY20-21 and Subsequent Years**

Assumptions:

- The proposed legislation requires the state to fund at least one driver education course at each Title I public high school; funding will be subject to appropriation in the general appropriations act and the availability of funding.
- Title I public high schools will be required to offer at least one driver education course regardless of the availability of funding.
- There are currently 140 Title I schools that serve grades nine through twelve (9-12), or a subset of grades 9-12, and 33 Title I schools that serve one or more grades 9-12 and other grades.
- The proposed legislation does not define the specific requirements of a driver education course or whether it would entail classroom instruction, behind-the-wheel training, or both; depending on this distinction, providing the course may require additional staff, purchasing instructional materials and vehicles, and other costs related to maintenance and liability insurance.
- The cost for public high schools to provide a driver education course will depend on multiple factors not specified in the proposed legislation; thus a precise cost estimate cannot be reasonably determined.
- The proposed legislation does not prohibit LEAs from using Title I funds to support a driver education course, to the extent authorized by federal law; however, federal law prohibits the use of Title I funds for this purpose.
- Due to the unknown costs associated with providing an unspecified driver education course, the extent to which funding will be available, and the timing and location of any such impact, a precise increase in expenditures for Title I public high schools cannot be reasonably determined; however, each class is reasonably estimated to exceed \$20,000 per year.

- The total recurring increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$3,460,000 (\$20,000 per school x 173) in FY20-21 and subsequent years.

**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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