

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 310 – HB 567

March 3, 2019

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires the Tennessee School of the Deaf, together with the West Tennessee School of the Deaf, to establish a two-year deaf mentor pilot project to assist families and agencies in implementing home-based programming for children who are deaf, hearing-impaired, or deaf-blind. Requires the pilot project to consist of three programs with one located in each of the Tennessee School of the Deaf campuses in Jackson, Knoxville, and Nashville. Requires, at the end of the project, the Department of Education (DOE) to evaluate the pilot project and report its findings to the Education Committee of the Senate and the Education Administration and Planning Committee of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2022.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$443,100/Each FY19-20 and FY20-21**

Assumptions:

- The pilot program will begin in FY19-20 and will last two years through the end of FY20-21.
- The pilot project will require three program managers, one for each location, to coordinate the alignment of deaf mentors with families of children who are deaf.
- Three Education Consultant 2 positions at a midrange salary point will be required which will result in an increase in state expenditures of \$263,091 [(\$67,008 salary + \$17,689 benefits + \$3,000 supplies) x 3] in each FY19-20 and FY20-21.
- The pilot project will require an additional 18 employees, 6 for each location, who will serve as mentors for children in the program; each mentor will be paid a stipend of \$10,000 each year. The increase in state expenditures is estimated to be \$180,000 (18 x \$10,000) in each FY19-20 and FY20-21.
- There could be additional administrative expenses incurred to develop and administer the program for the two-year period; as a result, the total increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$443,091 (\$263,091 + \$180,000) in FY19-20 and FY20-21.
- Any impact from DOE evaluating and reporting on the pilot project can be accomplished within existing resources without an additional appropriation or reduced reversion.

**SB 310 – HB 567**

**CERTIFICATION:**

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

Handwritten signature of Krista Lee Carsner in black ink.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/alh