

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

122nd General Assembly of Ohio

BILL: Am.Sub.H.B.70

DATE: March 18, 1997

STATUS: As Introduced

SPONSOR: Rep. Fox

LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: No — Permissive

CONTENTS: Allows a school board of education to adopt a drug testing policy for 7-12 grade students.

State Fiscal Highlights

STATE FUND	FY 1998	FY 1999	FUTURE YEARS
General Revenue Fund			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Minimal potential increase	- 0 -	- 0 -
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -

- The State Board of Education would incur costs if it chose to create, mandate and distribute a model pamphlet concerning substance abuse and children.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 1998	FY 1999	FUTURE YEARS
School districts (per pupil cost estimates)			
Revenues	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase	Potential minimal increase
Expenditures	\$25 per breath alcohol screen \$30 per 8 panel drug screen \$25 per LSD screening \$12 per Nicotine screen \$.82 per informational packet mailed annually	\$25 per breath alcohol screen \$30 per 8 panel drug screen \$25 per LSD screening \$12 per Nicotine screen \$.82 per informational packet mailed annually	\$25 per breath alcohol screen \$30 per 8 panel drug screen \$25 per LSD screening \$12 per Nicotine screen \$.82 per informational packet mailed annually
School districts (cost for an average school district if it chooses to run a full battery of tests for 20% of 7-12 grade students)			
Revenues	Minimal potential increase	Minimal potential increase	Minimal potential increase
Expenditures	\$53,834	\$53,834	\$53,834

- Test estimates are based on contracted testing and analysis through an approved laboratory.
- Analyzing tests on premises is cost prohibitive.



- The yearly expenses for an average district is calculated by estimating printing and shipping printed materials related to the drug testing policy and conducting a full battery of tests on 20% of the student body twice a year.
- Parents who elect to have their children tested by the school will pay a fee for the testing service. This service can generate some revenue for districts depending on usage.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

The bill allows school districts to adopt a policy for drug and alcohol testing of 7-12 grade students. If the policy is adopted, school districts have four options for testing. Each year, the district board of education must review its drug policy and continue, discontinue or modify the policy. Parents are to be notified each year of the revised drug policy, by mail, along with a drug awareness and prevention pamphlet, and a consent form for the child to participate in the drug-testing program. Only those students, whose parents sign and return the consent form, can be tested.

State Fiscal Effects

Sec. 3318.887 states the State Board of Education may develop a model educational pamphlet, concerning drug use and adolescents, and require districts to utilize the model. The Board of Education would incur administration costs in the development and distribution of such a pamphlet.

Local Fiscal Effects

Local schools incur expenses in two areas, administration and implementation. The school district must designate a drug-testing liaison per Sec.3313.881.3. The liaison must already be an employee of the district. However additional responsibilities will increase expenses. The second component to administrative costs is the annual review and distribution of the district's drug testing policy. After the policy is reviewed, the school district must distribute the policy, a drug abuse awareness pamphlet, and a consent form to all parents of students in grades 7-12.

- Costs for printing and distributing the educational drug pamphlet and drug policy are:
 $(\$0.50 \text{ for printed materials}) \times (\$0.32 \text{ for postage}) \times (1431 \text{ number of 7-12 students in average district}) = \1173.42

Expenses in the area of review depend on how closely the program is scrutinized and how much modification is required year to year. If the board adopts a drug testing policy it has four options for testing:

- Every student may be tested on a periodic basis;
- A specified percentage of all students, selected randomly may be tested periodically;
- If drug or alcohol use is suspected, a student may be tested;
- Each student who has participated drug or alcohol abuse counseling may be tested periodically as recommended by the counselor.

Expenses vary greatly depending on which policy is adopted.

The second area of expenses is implementation. The adopted testing policy will dictate the cost to the school district. School districts also have the option of contracting the testing and analysis out to an approved laboratory or conducting the testing on premises. Analysis of urine drug tests is cost prohibitive. Breath alcohol analysis performed for a reasonable cost. Machines range from \$1000-\$5000 with \$.25 per mouthpiece, \$300 year for maintenance and calibration, and \$3 a roll for triplicate paper. Training is also required for the individual collecting and analyzing breath samples. Typical instruction would require a full day of training.

Which substances a school district choose to test for also affects expenses. Most substances outlined in Sec.3313.881.1 are included in the standard eight-panel test. Nicotine and Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD) are separate tests that require incurring extra costs.

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