



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Jason Phillips

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

Bill: [S.B. 21 of the 130th G.A.](#)

Date: February 26, 2013

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor: Sen. Lehner

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

Contents: Revises the requirements for reading teachers under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee

State Fiscal Highlights

- No direct fiscal effect on the state.

Local Fiscal Highlights

- Under the bill, more teachers are likely to qualify to provide reading instruction to students under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, which may result in schools and districts being able to meet the requirement at a lower cost.

Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Current law requires a teacher providing reading instruction under the Third Grade Reading Guarantee to have been actively engaged in the reading instruction of students for the previous three years and meet at least one of four credential options. The bill eliminates the requirement for active engagement in reading instruction for the previous three years. This change will likely increase the number of teachers who qualify, which may result in schools and districts being able to meet the requirement at a lower cost.

Under continuing law, unchanged by the bill, a waiver for the 2013-2014 school year is available for school districts and community schools that are not able to furnish the number of qualified teachers needed. However, the district or school must submit a plan to ODE indicating the criteria that will be used to determine the teachers that will teach and how they intend to furnish the required number of qualified teachers for the 2014-2015 school year. Under such a plan, a school district or community school may contract with other school districts or private providers that have been screened and approved to provide reading intervention services. This option is required for districts that cannot furnish the number of teachers needed and whose plan is rejected by ODE. The bill may result in fewer districts and schools needing a waiver and fewer being required to contract for reading intervention services.