



SF 472 – English Language Learners, Expanded Weighting (LSB1740SZ)
 Analyst: John Parker (Phone: (515) 725-2249) (john.parker@legis.iowa.gov)
 Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

Senate File 472 increases the supplementary weighting for students identified as limited English proficient (LEP) from 0.22 to 0.30 per student. The Bill increases the number of years an LEP student is eligible to generate supplementary weighting from five to six years for students identified LEP beginning in FY 2016. The years of eligibility increases to seven years for students identified as LEP beginning in FY 2017.

Background

Currently, students eligible for LEP instruction generate additional supplementary weighting through the school aid formula for a maximum of five years. Additionally, school districts may be granted supplemental aid or a modified supplemental amount from the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for costs associated with students that remain in the program after the supplementary weighting eligibility provision has been exhausted.

During the 2006 Legislative Session, **HF 2792** (Additional Education Funding Act) increased the LEP supplementary weighting student eligibility provision from three to four years beginning in FY 2007. In the 2013 Legislative Session, **SF 452** (Standings Appropriations Bill) increased the eligibility provision from four to five years beginning in FY 2015. The following table provides the LEP supplementary weighting school aid amounts and the amount of modified supplemental aid granted by the SBRC since FY 2007.

| | School Aid Funding Levels | | | | | Modified Supplemental Amount Granted by the SBRC | Number of Districts |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| | LEP Supplementary Weighting Amount | Total Funding | State Aid Portion | Local Property Tax Portion | Number of Districts | | |
| Est. FY 2016 | 4,077.5 | \$ 26.1 | \$ 22.9 | \$ 3.2 | 220 | N.A. | N.A. |
| FY 2015 | 3,961.8 | 25.3 | 22.2 | 3.1 | 213 | N.A. | N.A. |
| FY 2014 | 3,392.0 | 20.9 | 18.2 | 2.6 | 203 | \$ 4.1 | 107 |
| FY 2013 | 3,197.0 | 25.3 | 22.2 | 3.1 | 199 | 11.4 | 113 |
| FY 2012 | 3,013.1 | 20.9 | 18.2 | 2.6 | 190 | 10.8 | 104 |
| FY 2011 | 2,873.9 | 19.3 | 16.8 | 2.5 | 182 | 11.8 | 82 |
| FY 2010 | 3,187.1 | 17.8 | 15.5 | 2.3 | 216 | 11.1 | 78 |
| FY 2009 | 3,088.4 | 17.0 | 14.8 | 2.2 | 202 | 12.3 | 84 |
| FY 2008 | 2,876.3 | 18.5 | 16.1 | 2.4 | 196 | 10.3 | 70 |
| FY 2007 | 3,088.7 | 17.2 | 15.0 | 2.2 | 175 | 6.2 | 68 |

N.A. = not available
 FY 2016 estimate assumes 0.0% State percent of growth.

Assumptions

Assumptions include:

- A 0.0% State percent of growth is assumed for FY 2016 through FY 2023. Any State percent of growth above 0.0% will increase the estimated cost.
- Growth in current law LEP weightings of 7.0% each fiscal year.
- Proportional distribution of the supplementary weighting amounts for students eligible for a sixth and seventh year of LEP weighting.
- The amount of modified supplemental aid requested by school districts will decrease when the eligibility provision reaches seven years, but the specific amount is unknown. Reductions in modified supplemental aid will likely lead to reductions in local property taxes.
- It is unknown the number of students exiting the program before their eligibility period expires, but the reduction in students will reduce the estimated fiscal impact.

Fiscal Impact

The following table includes the estimated impact of increasing the supplementary weighting for students identified as LEP from 0.22 to 0.30 per student and the State aid portion. The impact of the sixth and seventh year of eligibility do not have an impact until FY 2021 and FY 2023.

| | Impact of Weighting Increase | Impact of Sixth Year of Eligibility | Impact of Seventh Year of Eligibility | Total Impact | State Aid Portion – Impact |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| FY 2016 | \$ 9.4 | N.A. | N.A. | \$ 9.4 | \$ 8.3 |
| FY 2017 | 10.1 | N.A. | N.A. | 10.1 | 8.9 |
| FY 2018 | 10.8 | N.A. | N.A. | 10.8 | 9.5 |
| FY 2019 | 11.6 | N.A. | N.A. | 11.6 | 10.2 |
| FY 2020 | 12.4 | N.A. | N.A. | 12.4 | 10.9 |
| FY 2021 | 13.2 | \$ 7.1 | N.A. | 20.3 | 17.9 |
| FY 2022 | 14.2 | 7.6 | N.A. | 21.7 | 19.2 |
| FY 2023 | 15.2 | 8.1 | \$ 11.4 | 34.6 | 30.6 |

Sources

Iowa Department of Management, School Aid file
Iowa Department of Education, SBRC Modified Supplemental Aid file
LSA analysis and calculations

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

March 23, 2015

The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
