

January 23, 2013

The Honorable Steve Abrams, Chairperson
Senate Committee on Education
Statehouse, Room 224-E
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Senator Abrams:

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note for SB 44 by Senator Abrams

In accordance with KSA 75-3715a, the following fiscal note concerning SB 44 is respectfully submitted to your committee.

SB 44 would require that upon receipt of a written statement from a licensed physician, psychologist or psychiatrist stating that a child has been diagnosed with dyslexia, a school district would be required to implement best practices in instructing the student, in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Education.

The State Board of Education would be required to adopt rules and regulations regarding dyslexia, including the following requirements: (1) to establish best practices of instruction; (2) to require school districts to provide early screening or testing of students enrolled in pre-K through second grade to identify students with language and literacy disorders including dyslexia; and (3) to require that teachers successfully complete teacher preparation courses that include the language essentials for reading and spelling curriculum or other intensive multisensory teacher training programs designed for children with dyslexia.

In addition, the bill would require the State Board of Education to prepare an annual report on dyslexia and deliver a copy of the report to the House and Senate Education Committees on or before January 14 each year.

Finally, if a child diagnosed with dyslexia is not provided appropriate intensive multisensory instruction within six weeks from the date when the school district is notified of the diagnosis, the school district would be required to pay for the appropriate intensive multisensory instruction by a third party, selected by the parent of the child. Eligible expenses would include the costs of transportation to and from the location where the instruction would be provided.

Estimated State Fiscal Effect				
	FY 2013 SGF	FY 2013 All Funds	FY 2014 SGF	FY 2014 All Funds
Revenue	--	--	--	--
Expenditure	--	--	\$3,000	\$3,000
FTE Pos.	--	--	--	--

According to the Kansas Department of Education, enactment of SB 44 would require additional expenditures totaling \$3,000, all from the State General Fund. Expenditures would include \$1,000 to design a survey instrument to be used by all school districts for the annual report on dyslexia. In addition, expenditures of approximately \$2,000 would be required for the development of a computer program for online reporting of this information by school districts. Any fiscal effect associated with SB 44 is not reflected in *The FY 2014 Governor's Budget Report*.

In addition, school districts could incur additional costs associated with providing intensive multisensory instruction by a third party if a student diagnosed with dyslexia is not provided appropriate instruction by the school district within six weeks of being notified of a student's dyslexia diagnosis.

Sincerely,



Steven J. Anderson, CPA, MBA
Director of the Budget

cc: Dale Dennis, Education