

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6325
BILL NUMBER: SB 110

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 13, 2006
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Care and Management of Student Diabetes At School.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Landske
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: *Student Diabetes Training Program-* The bill establishes a training program for school employees who are not health care professionals to assist students with diabetes in managing and treating the diabetes.

Individualized Student Health Plans- The bill sets forth requirements for individualized health plans for students who will be managing and treating diabetes while at school or school activities.

Volunteer Care Assistants Stipend- The bill appropriates to the State Department of Health (SDH) from the state General Fund an amount sufficient to pay a \$100 stipend to school employees who offer to serve as care assistants and successfully complete training.

(The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Interim Study Committee on Children's Issues.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Student Diabetes Training Program-* The State Department of Health would be required to develop a training program for school care assistants under the guidelines specified in the bill. The bill does not make an appropriation to cover the development of the guidelines. The SDH reports that an additional staff member would be required to help develop the guidelines. Estimated cost for salary, fringes, travel, office equipment, printing, and incentives is \$79,900 during the first year of implementation.

Volunteer Care Assistants Stipend- The volunteer care assistants stipend could require state General Fund expenditures between \$0.21 M to \$0.87 M. The range is based on the assumption that approximately 1,955

public schools would have at least one volunteer but no more than five. However, under provision "A" below, schools with a full-time nurse assigned could have an open-ended number of volunteer care assistants eligible for a stipend. Therefore, the fiscal impact to state expenditures is indeterminable. Additionally, the state would provide stipends in future years whenever care assistants are replaced by new volunteers due to employee retirement or turnover.

Ultimately, the expenditures necessary to cover total stipends would depend on the number of volunteers that complete training, become care assistants, and accept the stipend.

Background and Methodology- A school principal would be required to "seek school employees to serve as care assistants" and "make efforts to ensure that the school has":

Provision A-"At least one care assistant if a full-time school nurse is assigned to the school;"

Provision B-"At least two but not more than five care assistants if a full-time nurse is not assigned to the school."

Schools may be able to meet the requirements of the bill with respect to the number of care assistants by having only one per building. A single care assistant per public school building could limit the impact to \$195,500.

Schools Without Full-Time Nurse: The number of school buildings without a full-time school nurse assigned is unknown. As of November 2006, there were 1,034 full-time nurses in public schools. Sixty-one school corporations do not currently employ a full-time school nurse. However, 36 of those corporations are charter schools.

For purpose of this analysis, a school corporation without a full-time school nurse employed (provision B) is assumed to not have a full-time nurse assigned to any school building within that corporation. Therefore, the stipend range was estimated on the assumption that corporations without a full-time nurse would pay for either two or five volunteers within each school building.

Schools With Full-Time Nurse: For corporations where a full-time nurse is assigned (provision A), it is not known to how many buildings each particular nurse is assigned, nor if each building is assigned a nurse. For purpose of the analysis, it is assumed that if nurses are employed in a corporation, there is a nurse assigned for at least part of a day at each school in that corporation. Therefore, if a school falls under provision A, the stipend range was estimated based on one additional care assistant trained in each school building.

NOTE: The estimated range of stipend expenditures is based only on **public schools**. The bill's definition of "school employee" includes accredited nonpublic school employees, which would allow accredited nonpublic schools to participate in the stipend program, and increase the expenditure level.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Student Diabetes Training Program-* Staff volunteers would be trained by either a health care professional or a school nurse. The impact of this provision to school expenditures would depend on the arrangement made between the school and the employee trained to be a care assistant. Most if not all expenses could be mitigated if either a school nurse or volunteer health professional were to provide the training within the normal course of business. If a school were to reach a sufficient number of

trained care assistants, the school would not need to further train individuals unless the trained care assistants were to end their employment at the school.

Individualized Student Health Plans- Under the bill, school principals and nurses would be required to develop a health plan with the parents and physicians of diabetic students attending the school. Principals and nurses would require additional administrative time to compile and implement student health plans. Schools would likely be able to accomplish this provision within existing resources.

Background Information- Current law requires that school employees who are responsible for administering injectable insulin or glucose testing that are not certified in a medical field must obtain training from a medical practitioner or licensed nurse.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Department of Health.

Local Agencies Affected: Schools.

Information Sources: DOE SAS DATABASES; *FY2006 General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries*; State of Indiana: *List of Appropriations July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2007*; Brian Carnes, Legislative Director, State Department of Health, 233-7449.

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