1989

Session Law 89-140

Florida Senate & House of Representatives

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S 271  GENERAL BILL/CS by Education; Johnson; Kirkpatrick and others (Identical CS/H 549, Similar H 275, Compare H 1205, S 41)
FTE Calculations/School Districts: (THIS BILL COMBINES S271,41) amends provision re Fla. Education Finance Program to provide for calculation of additional full-time equivalent student membership based on international baccalaureate examination scores & diploma awards; revises such calculation based on college board advanced placement scores. Amends 236.081. Effective Date: 07/01/89.

02/15/89 SENATE Prefiled
03/24/89 SENATE Referred to Education; Appropriations
04/04/89 SENATE Introduced, referred to Education; Appropriations --SJ 31; On Committee agenda--Education, 04/06/89, 8:30 am, Room--2C--(301)—Temporarily postponed
04/10/89 SENATE On Committee agenda--Education, 04/12/89, 3:45 pm, Room--A--(LL--37)
04/12/89 SENATE CS combines this bill and 41; Comm. Report: CS by Education --SJ 125
04/13/89 SENATE CS read first time --SJ 171; Now in Appropriations --SJ 125
05/03/89 SENATE Extension of time granted Committee Appropriations
05/12/89 SENATE On Committee agenda--Appropriations, 05/16/89, 2:00 pm, Room--A--(LL--37)
05/16/89 SENATE Comm. Report: Favorable by Appropriations, placed on Calendar --SJ 380
05/24/89 SENATE Placed on Special Order Calendar --SJ 402; CS passed; YEAS 29 NAYS 0 --SJ 442
05/25/89 HOUSE In Messages
06/01/89 HOUSE Received, placed on Calendar; Read second time; Read third time; CS passed; YEAS 110 NAYS 0 --HJ 1067
06/01/89 HOUSE Ordered enrolled --SJ 691
06/12/89 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor
06/27/89 Approved by Governor: Chapter No. 89-140

NOTES: Above bill history from Division of Legislative Information's FINAL LEGISLATIVE BILL INFORMATION, 1989 SESSIONS. Staff Analyses for bills amended beyond final committee action may not be in accordance with the enacted law. Journal page numbers (HJ & SJ) refer to daily Journals and may not be the same as final bound Journals.
I. SUMMARY:

A. Present Situation:

The Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs offer advanced high school students an opportunity to earn college credit and admission to prestigious colleges by taking courses and passing tests in traditional subjects taught in most colleges' core curriculum. The AP program offers individual courses so that a student can be in regular high school courses most of the time but take one or more AP courses during the junior and senior years of high school. Some high schools allow students to take IB courses in conjunction with regular courses, but the IB program is designed as a total high school program in which all the courses a student takes are IB courses leading to an IB diploma.

The AP program has been available for about 20 years in some Florida high schools; only four other states give more AP tests than Florida. The IB program was started five years ago.

The IB program is sponsored and administered by the International Baccalaureate Office, a Swiss foundation with headquarters in Geneva. The AP program is sponsored by the College Board in New York City.

Seven Florida public secondary schools have established IB programs--Eastside in Alachua County, St. Petersburg in Pinellas County, Stanton Preparatory in Duval County, Winter Park in Orange County, Boyd Anderson in Broward County, Pensacola in Escambia County, and Coral Gables in Dade County. Five more schools have applied for an IB program but have not yet been accepted--Atlantic High School and Suncoast High School in Palm Beach County; Deerfield Beach High School in Broward County; Spruce Creek High School and DeLand Senior High School in Volusia County.

This year the seven schools with active IB programs have 2,064 students enrolled in grades 9-12. Only four schools have awarded IB diplomas; they have a total of 201 diploma candidates this year.

The IB program's subjects are designated either "higher" or "subsidiary" and coincide with exams students must take to receive credit. Students who complete the program and pass all six higher level tests receive a diploma; they can also complete subsidiary tests along the way and receive certificates that are about the equivalent of an Advanced Placement credential.

Chapter 87-212, L.O.F., placed the IB program into statutes as one of Florida's articulated acceleration mechanisms. It
allows students scoring a minimum of 4 on a 7-point scale on IB individual subject examinations to earn postsecondary credit. The 1987 Legislature also amended s. 232.2465, F.S., to make holders of IB diplomas automatically eligible for the Florida Academic Scholarship.

The Department of Education projects that 900 IB exams will be given in 1989-90. The passing rate with a score of 4 or above is about 76 percent, or 680 people who will pass IB tests in 1989-90.

In 1988-89, the department projects that over 29,315 students will take AP exams, and about half or 14,607 will pass them with a score of 3 or better.

Schools receive no additional funding for successful students in the IB program. They receive an additional 0.3 FTE for each student who passes an Advanced Placement (AP) test, as required by s. 236.081(l)(i), F.S.. In 1988 the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission studied the costs to districts for IB and AP programs and recommended that both be funded by an extra 0.24 FTE per passing score on each of the tests.

B. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The proposed legislation would amend s. 236.081(l)(i), F.S., to change the FTE calculation for successful students in AP courses from 0.3 to 0.24 additional FTE per student who passed an AP test with a score of three or better (on a scale of 1-5). For IB students, the bill would add paragraph (l) to that subsection to award 0.24 FTE to schools for each student who passed an IB test with a score of four or better (on a scale of 1-7). It would award an additional 0.3 FTE for every IB student who passed all six higher level exams and earned an IB diploma. These values would be added to the total full-time equivalent student membership in basic programs for grades 9 through 12 in the subsequent fiscal year.

II. ECONOMIC IMPACT AND FISCAL NOTE:

A. Public:

Each IB test has a fee--$34 for the subject area tests and $25 for the extended essay tests. However, s. 240.116, F.S., prohibits students from paying examination fees.

B. Government:

For IB programs, the secondary schools must pay an application fee of $2,500, an affiliation fee of $1300, and an annual subscription fee of $6,500 if they have 15 or more diploma candidates and $5,700 if they have fewer than 15 candidates. They also have to pay a per capita fee for the test batteries: $120 for the full battery for diploma candidates, $65 for the full battery for certificate candidates, and $65 for all retakes. Secondary schools are paying the examination fees this year.

The actual cost to run an IB program is difficult to determine. Participating secondary schools spend approximately $70,000 a year to implement the program.

If this bill passed, the cost to the state would rise by about $580,000 for the extra FTE for IB students passing tests, and by about $71,000 for the IB students earning diplomas. The state's costs would fall by an estimated $1.6 million for the reduction in reimbursements to districts for AP tests. Thus the net result would be a savings of about $950,000 in the first year. The cost in subsequent years would depend on how
many students took and passed AP and IB tests and earned IB diplomas.

III. COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS:

None.
I. SUMMARY:

The bill awards school districts an extra .3 full-time equivalent (FTE) student for each of its students receiving an International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma, and an additional .24 FTE for each of its students passing an IB subject examination.

The bill also reduces from .3 FTE to .24 the number of additional FTE awarded for each advanced placement examination passed.

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

The IB program is an advanced educational program for academically talented and motivated 11th and 12th grade students. The program is sponsored and administered by the International Baccalaureate Office in Geneva, Switzerland, and is represented in the United States by International Baccalaureate North America, Inc. Pursuant to s. 232.2465, Florida Statutes, a student successfully completing the IB program qualifies as a Florida academic scholar. Seven Florida high schools offer the IB program.

To offer an IB program, a school must be accepted into membership by the Executive Committee of the International Baccalaureate Office. Schools participating in the IB program typically incur annual costs of between $10,000 and 20,000. Fees for the 1988-89 school year were as follows:

1. School Application Fee $2,500.00
2. Affiliation Fee 1,190.00
3. Participation Fee
   a. Fewer than 15 IB students 5,400.00
   b. 15 or more IB students 6,150.00
4. Examination Fees
   a. Registration
      (1) Certificate candidates 26.00
(2) Diploma candidates 46.00
  b. Each higher level examination 35.00
  c. Each subsidiary level examination 28.00

5. Per capita fee
   a. Diploma candidates 115.00
   b. Certificate candidates 62.00

The school is responsible for paying the examination and per capita fees, although they may be charged to the students. In practice, schools pay these fees for the students.

The final grade a student receives in an IB course is based on the examination score and general classroom performance. The grading scale for the IB certificate examinations range from a very poor (one) to a satisfactory (four) to an excellent (seven). The International Baccalaureate Office prepares and grades each examination. A score of four is considered the equivalent of a three on the College Board Advanced Placement Examinations. For the 1988-89 school year, 361 11th and 12th grade students are IB diploma candidates. These students will take a total of 1,855 certificate examinations. The diploma candidate usually takes three subsidiary level examinations in the 11th grade and three higher level examinations in the 12th grade. The certificate candidate takes examinations only in selected subject areas.

The Florida Academic Schools Program is another program for academically superior students. Students are required to complete certain coursework and achieve a score of 1100 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test of the College Entrance Examination or an equivalent score on the American College Testing Program. Statewide, 19,565 high school students will sit for at least one advanced placement examination during the 1988-89 school year. Schools will administer a total of 29,315 advanced placement examinations. The student pass rate (score of three or higher) was approximately fifty-six percent.

An additional .3 full-time equivalent (FTE) student membership is awarded to each school district for each student scoring three or higher on advanced placement examinations. School districts receive no similar allowance for students achieving an equivalent score on an IB certificate examination.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill would award school districts an extra .3 FTE or .24 FTE student membership for each of its students receiving an IB diploma or passing an IB subject examination, respectively, in the immediately preceding school year. The extra FTE would be awarded in the subsequent fiscal year.

The bill also would reduce from .3 FTE to .24 FTE the number of additional FTE awarded for each advanced placement examination passed.

C. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:
II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:
   1. Non-recurring or First Year Start-Up Effects:
      Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments)
   2. Recurring or Annualized Continuation Effects:
      Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments)
   3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:
      None
   4. Appropriations Consequences:
      Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments)

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:
   1. Non-recurring or First Year Start-Up Effects:
      Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments)
   2. Recurring or Annualized Continuation Effects:
      Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments)
   3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:
      Indeterminate (See Fiscal Comments)

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:
   1. Direct Private Sector Costs:
      None
   2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:
      None
   3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise, and Employment Markets:
      None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

   Because it is quite likely many IB students will be students who
otherwise would be enrolled in the advanced placement program, it is probable that the IB portion of bill will not create a fiscal impact.

However, assuming there will be no overlap in the universe of students served, and further assuming that all the 115 IB diploma candidates now in the 12th grade receive their diploma, the cost to the state in fiscal year 1989-90 would be $81,837. Awarding an extra .24 FTE for each IB subject examination passed (assuming a pass rate of 54 percent), based on the number of examinations expected to be taken in the 1988-89 school year, would cost the state an additional estimated $570,267. The annual cost would be expected to grow as more students enroll in the IB program.

Based on 1988-89 data, a reduction of .06 FTE in the amount of additional FTE awarded for students passing an advanced placement examination would save the state $2.34 million (16,416 examinations passed x .06 FTE x $2,372.08 [base student allocation]).

III. LONG RANGE CONSEQUENCES:

The bill is consistent with the education goal of creating "an educational environment which is intended to provide adequate skills and knowledge for students to develop their full potential, enhance the highest ideas and accomplishments, make a positive contribution to society, and promote the advancement of positive contribution to society, and promote the advancement of knowledge and human dignity."

IV. COMMENTS:

In a 1988 study entitled "Funding of Acceleration Mechanisms," the Postsecondary Education Planning Commission found that school districts would be able to recover IB program costs with an award of an extra .1 FTE student for every student scoring a four or higher on an IB certificate examination. Since the release of the study, the Department of Education reconsidered several assumptions and produced a factor of .24 FTE student.

During the 1988 Session, the House Committee on Education, K-12 adopted a similar bill, HB 472. The bill later died in the House Committee on Appropriations.

V. AMENDMENTS:

None

VI. SIGNATURES:

SUBSTANTIVE COMMITTEE:
Prepared by:  

Staff Director:

STANDARD FORM 1/89