

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Appropriations

BILL: SB 2502-A
INTRODUCER: Appropriations Committee
SUBJECT: Implementing SB 2500-A
DATE: June 7, 2017 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Sikes	Hansen	AP	Pre-meeting

I. Summary:

SB 2502-A provides the statutory authority necessary to implement and execute SB 2500-A for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2017.

II. Present Situation:

Article IX, section 1 of the Florida Constitution establishes the State of Florida’s commitment to funding grades K-12 education, as follows: “The education of children is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida. It is, therefore, a paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the education of all children residing within its borders. Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure and high quality system of free public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality education...”¹

In 1973 the Florida Legislature enacted the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) and established the state policy on equalized funding to guarantee to each student in the Florida public education system the availability of programs and services appropriate to his or her educational needs that are substantially equal to those available to any similar student notwithstanding geographic differences and varying local economic factors.²

The FEFP is the primary mechanism for funding the operating costs of Florida school districts. A key feature of the FEFP is that it bases financial support for education upon the individual student participating in a particular educational program rather than upon the number of teachers or classrooms.³

¹ Fla. Const. article IX, s. 1 (1968).

² Florida Department of Education, *Funding for Florida School Districts*, available at <http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7507/urlt/Fefpdist.pdf>.

³ *Id.*

FEFP funds are primarily generated by multiplying the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) students in each of the funded education programs by cost factors to obtain weighted FTE students. Weighted FTE students are then multiplied by a base student allocation and by a district cost differential to determine the base funding from state and local FEFP funds. Program cost factors represent relative cost differences among the FEFP programs.⁴

Instructional Materials

Instructional materials funds are provided for school districts to purchase instructional materials, as well as electronic devices and technology equipment and infrastructure. Instructional Materials funding is also provided for library media materials, science lab materials and supplies, dual enrollment instructional materials, and digital instructional materials for students with disabilities. The funds are allocated to the districts based on the formula in s. 1011.67, F.S.⁵

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 provides legislative intent that the implementing and administering provisions of this act apply to SB 2500-A for Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

Section 2 incorporates the FEFP work papers by reference for displaying the calculations used by the Legislature.

Section 3 provides that funds provided for instructional materials shall be released and expended as required in the proviso language attached to Specific Appropriation 91.

Section 4 provides an effective date of July 1, 2017.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.*

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates undesignated sections of Florida Law.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.