

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING INCREASING ACCESS TO SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Prime Sponsors: Representative Michaelson Jenet
Senator Fields

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Date Prepared: April 23, 2019

Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 03/21/19.

	No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill
XXX	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared
	Non-Concurrence: JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill

The Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note, dated March 21, 2019, indicates that the bill requires a General Fund appropriation and that expenditures will continue through FY 2026-27. However, as amended by the Education Committee Report (dated February 14, 2019), the bill authorizes the appropriation of cash funds from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund and this (JBC Staff) analysis assumes that the intent is to support the bill with cash funds from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund. In addition, the Education Committee Report repeals the program as of July 1, 2023 rather than in 2027.

Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee

Amendment	Description
J.001	Staff-prepared appropriation amendment
L.005	Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact in FY 2020-21 and subsequent years

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

J.001 Staff has prepared amendment **J.001** (attached) to add a provision appropriating \$43,114 cash funds from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund to the Department of Education for FY 2019-20. This provision also states that the appropriation is based on the assumption that the Department will require an additional 0.4 FTE.

L.005 Bill Sponsor amendment **L.005** (attached) makes a number of changes to the bill. In addition to several changes that do not affect the fiscal impact of the bill, the amendment includes the following provisions that do (or may) change the fiscal impact:

- The amendment limits appropriations from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund to FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21 and would no longer authorize appropriations from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund to support the program beyond FY 2020-21.
- The amendment limits appropriations from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund in FY 2020-21 to no more than \$2.5 million and specifies that the remainder of the funding required for the pilot program shall be from gifts, grants, and donations. Based on the Revised Fiscal Note's anticipated total cost of \$5.2 million in FY 2020-21, the amendment therefore assumes that the remaining \$2.7 million in FY 2020-21 and all funding for FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 would be from gifts, grants, and donations.
- The amendment also changes the required ratio of students to mental health professionals in pilot schools from no more than 100 students per professional in the Education Committee Report to no more than 250 students per professional in amendment L.005. Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree that this provision could reduce the necessary cost of the bill for schools with more than 100 students per grade. However, the impact of the change is uncertain because the pilot schools are not known at this time.

Points to Consider

Revenue Source/ Related Budget Information

This bill requires the following appropriations from the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund: \$43,114 in FY 2019-20 and \$5.2 million per year for FY 2020-21 through FY 2022-23 (sponsor amendment L.005 would limit the appropriation to no more than to \$2,500,000 in FY 2020-21 and eliminate the impact to the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23).

A total of \$158.9 million is projected to be available in the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund for appropriation in FY 2019-20, based on the March 2019 Legislative Council Staff revenue forecast. As detailed below, the FY 2019-20 budget package introduced by the Joint Budget Committee, as amended by General Assembly action on the Long Bill, leaves \$28.1 million available.

Total funds projected to be available for FY 2019-20	\$ 158,948,672
Less: Long Bill (S.B. 19-207) appropriations	(130,043,950)
Less: Transfers in/(out) under current law and S.B. 19-213	<u>(803,348)</u>
Funds remaining available	\$ 28,101,374

In addition, the bill assumes that any additional funding for FY 2020-21 through FY 2022-23 will be from gifts, grants, and donations. Is it likely that sufficient gifts, grants, and donations will be received for this purpose for those fiscal years? How does the General Assembly intend to fund this program in FY 2020-21 and future fiscal years if sufficient gifts, grants, and donations are not available?