

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A GRANT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPLY ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR STUDENTS WITH PRINT DISABILITIES, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR.

Prime Sponsors: Representative Green
Senator Windels

JBC Analyst: Carolyn Kampman
Phone: 303-866-2061
Date Prepared: April 27, 2006

Summary of Amendments Made to the Bill After the 04/03/06 Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note was Prepared (Amended by the Senate Education Committee 04/27/06)

1. Specifies a list of items that the materials and equipment *may* include, rather than requiring such items to be included.
2. Requires the State Board of Education to award grants for terms of one to *three* years (rather than one to five years). Further specifies that the grants awarded may not result in payment of an aggregate amount of more than *\$100,000* (rather than \$60,000) per fiscal year.
3. Repeals the article that is added by the bill July 1, *2009* (rather than 2011).

As **the above amendments** still require an appropriation of \$300,000, they **do not affect the fiscal impact of the bill.**

JBC Staff Concurrence with Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note

<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> XXX	Concurs*	<input type="checkbox"/>	Does Not Concur	<input type="checkbox"/>	Updated Analysis
--	----------	--------------------------	-----------------	--------------------------	------------------

* However, please note that the State Board of Education is authorized to award grants totaling up to \$100,000 per fiscal year. Thus, the \$300,000 in expenditures from the Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund will occur over three years, from FY 2006-07 through FY 2008-09.

Amendments/Appropriation Status

The bill currently includes a provision appropriating \$300,000 cash funds exempt from the Read-to-Achieve Cash Fund to the Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund for FY 2006-07. This appropriation is consistent with the Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note, dated April 3, 2006. Moneys in the newly created Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund are continuously appropriated to the Department, but annual grant awards are limited to a total of \$100,000. The

Department is authorized to spend up to one percent of the moneys appropriated to the new Fund for administrative costs (\$3,000).

Sponsor Amendments

Staff is not aware of any sponsor amendment(s) to be offered.

Points to Consider

The bill currently authorizes the use of moneys in the Read-to-Achieve Cash Fund for the new Reading Assistance Grant Program; it appropriates \$300,000 cash funds exempt from the Read-to-Achieve Cash Fund to the Reading Assistance Grant Program Fund for FY 2006-07. The Read-to-Achieve Grant Program is currently funded from tobacco settlement funds and General Fund: \$15,922,311 for FY 2005-06, and an estimated \$4,369,567 for FY 2006-07.