

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 16, 2007

TO: Honorable Bill Callegari, Chair, House Committee on Government Reform

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2452 by Burnam (Relating to testing employees of state schools for illegal drug use.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Subchapter A, Chapter 553, Health and Safety Code by adding Section 553.002. The new section would require the superintendent of each state school to adopt and enforce a policy prohibiting use of illegal drugs by employees. Enforcement of the policy would require mandatory testing of each state school employee at least once per year.

The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) indicated that applicants who have been offered employment at state schools are tested for illegal drug use before employment. In addition, state school employees are also tested before transfer, when there is reason to believe the employee is under the influence, or after the employee has engaged in or had problems with the prohibited conduct. Also, random testing is performed on employees who are required to have a Commercial Driver's License.

DADS stated that the amount expended on state school drug testing in fiscal year 2006 was \$108,272 in All Funds, of which \$48,213 was General Revenue Related Funds (approximately 3,093 tests at \$35 per test). DADS estimated that if all 11,065 State School employees were required to be tested each year the estimated increase in cost per fiscal year would be \$279,004 of which \$124,240 would be General Revenue Related. DADS estimated that the total cost per fiscal year 2008-2012 for testing all state school employees would be \$387,276 in All Funds.

It is assumed that the agency could implement the bill within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 539 Aging and Disability Services, Department of

LBB Staff: JOB, MN, PP, ML