

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATURE 1st CALLED SESSION - 2017**

**July 24, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Huberty, Chair, House Committee on Public Education

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB98** by Bernal (Relating to a school district assigning a mentor teacher to a new classroom teacher.), **As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB98, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$1,600,368) through the biennium ending August 31, 2019.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2018	(\$55,456)
2019	(\$1,544,912)
2020	(\$1,544,912)
2021	(\$1,544,912)
2022	(\$1,544,912)

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable (Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1	Probable (Cost) from Foundation School Fund 193	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2017
2018	(\$55,456)	\$0	0.5
2019	(\$94,912)	(\$1,450,000)	1.0
2020	(\$94,912)	(\$1,450,000)	1.0
2021	(\$94,912)	(\$1,450,000)	1.0
2022	(\$94,912)	(\$1,450,000)	1.0

**Fiscal Analysis**

The bill creates a new Foundation School Program statutory entitlement called the Mentor Program Allotment in Education Code Chapter 42. The bill authorizes the commissioner of education to establish a formula determining the entitlement for each participating school district, and repeals the existing mentor stipend grant program in Education Code Chapter 21. The bill

specifies additional mentor requirements and requires the commissioner to adopt rules regarding the number of teachers that may be assigned to a mentor.

The bill would take effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session, or immediately if passed with the necessary voting margins, and would apply beginning with school year 2018-19.

### **Methodology**

The impact specified in this note is based on an assumption that the Commissioner would adopt an allotment entitlement of \$250 per mentoring program participant. **However, actual impact to the Foundation School Program would vary depending on the actual district entitlement amounts adopted by the commissioner.**

There were an estimated 58,000 teachers in the first or second year of their career during the 2015-16 school year. Assuming that ten percent of these teachers participated in the mentoring program and each mentor had only one new teacher assigned to them, the total anticipated impact from the allotment would be \$1.45 million per year (5,800 participants each generating \$250 of entitlement = \$1.45 million). These costs would be reduced to the extent that the commissioner adopts rules allowing a teacher mentor to have multiple teacher assignments without an increase to their entitlement.

In addition, this fiscal note assumes program implementation would require a .5 FTE Program Specialist V at TEA to draft rules, work through the formula allotment, and for program administration in fiscal year 2018 at an estimated cost of \$55,456 and 1 FTE Program Specialist V at TEA in subsequent years at a cost of \$94,912.

### **Technology**

TEA estimates the administration of a Teacher Mentor program can be absorbed within current technology resources.

### **Local Government Impact**

School district that choose to participate in a mentoring program would absorb the costs associated with operating the program that are not covered by the allotment provided by the Foundation School Program.

**Source Agencies:** 701 Texas Education Agency

**LBB Staff:** UP, AG, AM, SL