

SENATE AMENDMENTS

2nd Printing

By: Wilson, Noble, Bell of Montgomery,
et al.

H.B. No. 2681

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to public school elective courses providing academic study
3 of the Bible offered to certain students.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 28.011, Education Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsections (a) and (f) and adding Subsection (g-1) to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) A school district may offer to students in grade six
9 [~~nine~~] or above:

10 (1) an elective course on the Hebrew Scriptures (Old
11 Testament) and its impact and an elective course on the New
12 Testament and its impact; or

13 (2) an elective course that combines the courses
14 described by Subdivision (1).

15 (f) A teacher of a course offered under this section must
16 hold a certificate [~~minimum of a High School Composite~~
17 ~~Certification~~] in language arts, social studies, or history that
18 qualifies the teacher to teach at the grade level at which the
19 course is offered with, where practical, a minor in religion or
20 biblical studies. A teacher selected to teach a course under this
21 section shall successfully complete staff development training
22 outlined in Section 21.459. A course under this section may [~~only~~]
23 be taught only by a teacher who has successfully completed training
24 under Section 21.459.

1 (g-1) A course offered under this section to students in
2 grade six, seven, or eight may be considered as a social studies
3 course for purposes of complying with the required curriculum under
4 Section 28.002.

5 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
6 school year.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

ADOPTED

MAY 26 2021

Latey Law
Secretary of the Senate

By: Wilson/Buckingham

H.B. No. 2681

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2681:

By: Beverly Powell

C.S. H.B. No. 2681

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1

2 relating to public school elective courses providing academic study
3 of the Bible offered to certain students.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Sections 28.011(a) and (f), Education Code, are
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) A school district may offer to students in grade six
8 [~~nine~~] or above:

9 (1) an elective course on the Hebrew Scriptures (Old
10 Testament) and its impact and an elective course on the New
11 Testament and its impact; or

12 (2) an elective course that combines the courses
13 described by Subdivision (1).

14 (f) A teacher of a course offered under this section must
15 hold a certificate [~~minimum of a High School Composite~~
16 ~~Certification~~] in language arts, social studies, or history that
17 qualifies the teacher to teach at the grade level at which the
18 course is offered with, where practical, a minor in religion or
19 biblical studies. A teacher selected to teach a course under this
20 section shall successfully complete staff development training
21 outlined in Section 21.459. A course under this section may [~~only~~]
22 be taught only by a teacher who has successfully completed training
23 under Section 21.459.

24 SECTION 2. The State Board of Education is required to

1 implement Sections 28.011(a) and (f), Education Code, as amended by
2 this Act, only if the legislature appropriates money specifically
3 for that purpose. If the legislature does not appropriate money
4 specifically for that purpose, the State Board of Education may,
5 but is not required to, implement Sections 28.011(a) and (f),
6 Education Code, as amended by this Act, using other appropriations
7 available for the purpose.

8 SECTION 3. This Act applies beginning with the 2021-2022
9 school year.

10 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 27, 2021

TO: Honorable Dade Phelan, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2681 by Wilson (Relating to public school elective courses providing academic study of the Bible offered to certain students.), **As Passed 2nd House**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2681, As Passed 2nd House : a negative impact of (\$301,480) through the biennium ending August 31, 2023.

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:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds |
|--------------------|---|
| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
| 2023 | (\$250,000) |
| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
| 2026 | \$0 |

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1 |
|--------------------|--|
| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
| 2023 | (\$250,000) |
| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
| 2026 | \$0 |

Fiscal Analysis

The bill's provisions would amend the beginning grade level for Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament elective courses from grade nine to grade six and adjust teacher certification requirements accordingly.

Methodology

There will be costs to the state for the State Board of Education to adopt essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) for use in grades six, seven and eight. These costs would include convening a work group of educators to make

recommendations for TEKS in grades six, seven, and eight. It is anticipated that the Texas Education Agency would need to convene a committee of approximately 18 individuals to attend four two-day face-to-face meetings. The cost to convene committees is an estimated \$51,480 in fiscal year 2022.

Additionally, there would be costs to the state to develop training for teachers who teach these courses. It is anticipated that the cost to develop content and publish an online training course would cost approximately \$250,000 in FY 2023.

Local Government Impact

There would likely be costs to districts that will make the courses available to middle school students to purchase instructional materials appropriate for middle school grades. Additionally, there would likely be costs to districts to train teachers to provide instruction in the courses.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, LBO, SL, THO, AH

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 24, 2021

TO: Honorable Larry Taylor, Chair, Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2681 by Wilson (relating to public school elective courses providing academic study of the Bible offered to certain students.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2681, Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted : a negative impact of (\$301,480) through the biennium ending August 31, 2023.

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:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds |
|--------------------|---|
| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
| 2023 | (\$250,000) |
| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
| 2026 | \$0 |

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund |
|--------------------|--|
| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
| 2023 | (\$250,000) |
| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
| 2026 | \$0 |

Fiscal Analysis

The bill's provisions would amend the beginning grade level for Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament elective courses from grade nine to grade six and adjust teacher certification requirements accordingly.

Methodology

There will be costs to the state for the State Board of Education to adopt essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) for use in grades six, seven and eight. These costs would include convening a work group of educators to make

recommendations for TEKS in grades six, seven, and eight. It is anticipated that the Texas Education Agency would need to convene a committee of approximately 18 individuals to attend four two-day face-to-face meetings. The cost to convene committees is an estimated \$51,480 in fiscal year 2022.

Additionally, there would be costs to the state to develop training for teachers who teach these courses. It is anticipated that the cost to develop content and publish an online training course would cost approximately \$250,000 in FY 2023.

Local Government Impact

There would likely be costs to districts that will make the courses available to middle school students to purchase instructional materials appropriate for middle school grades. Additionally, there would likely be costs to districts to train teachers to provide instruction in the courses.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, SL, THO, AH

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 20, 2021

TO: Honorable Larry Taylor, Chair, Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2681 by Wilson (Relating to public school elective courses providing academic study of the Bible offered to certain students.), **As Engrossed**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2681, As Engrossed : a negative impact of (\$301,480) through the biennium ending August 31, 2023.

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:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds |
|--------------------|---|
| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
| 2023 | (\$250,000) |
| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
| 2026 | \$0 |

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1 |
|--------------------|--|
| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
| 2023 | (\$250,000) |
| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
| 2026 | \$0 |

Fiscal Analysis

The bill's provisions would amend the beginning grade level for Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament elective courses from grade nine to grade six and adjust teacher certification requirements accordingly.

Methodology

There will be costs to the state for the State Board of Education to adopt essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) for use in grades six, seven and eight. These costs would include convening a work group of educators to make

recommendations for TEKS in grades six, seven, and eight. It is anticipated that the Texas Education Agency would need to convene a committee of approximately 18 individuals to attend four two-day face-to-face meetings. The cost to convene committees is an estimated \$51,480 in fiscal year 2022.

Additionally, there would be costs to the state to develop training for teachers who teach these courses. It is anticipated that the cost to develop content and publish an online training course would cost approximately \$250,000 in FY 2023.

Local Government Impact

There would likely be costs to districts that will make the courses available to middle school students to purchase instructional materials appropriate for middle school grades. Additionally, there would likely be costs to districts to train teachers to provide instruction in the courses.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, SL, THO, AH

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 9, 2021

TO: Honorable Harold V. Dutton, Jr., Chair, House Committee on Public Education

FROM: Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2681 by Wilson (Relating to public school elective courses providing academic study of the Bible offered to certain students.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2681, As Introduced : a negative impact of (\$301,480) through the biennium ending August 31, 2023.

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:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds |
|--------------------|---|
| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
| 2023 | (\$250,000) |
| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
| 2026 | \$0 |

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

| <i>Fiscal Year</i> | Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund |
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| 2022 | (\$51,480) |
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| 2024 | \$0 |
| 2025 | \$0 |
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Fiscal Analysis

The bill's provisions would amend the beginning grade level for Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament elective courses from grade nine to grade six and adjust teacher certification requirements accordingly.

Methodology

There will be costs to the state for the State Board of Education to adopt essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) for use in grades six, seven and eight. These costs would include convening a work group of educators to make

recommendations for TEKS in grades six, seven, and eight. It is anticipated that the Texas Education Agency would need to convene a committee of approximately 18 individuals to attend four two-day face-to-face meetings. The cost to convene committees is an estimated \$51,480 in fiscal year 2022.

Additionally, there would be costs to the state to develop training for teachers who teach these courses. It is anticipated that the cost to develop content and publish an online training course would cost approximately \$250,000 in FY 2023.

Local Government Impact

There would likely be costs to districts that will make the courses available to middle school students to purchase instructional materials appropriate for middle school grades. Additionally, there would likely be costs to districts to train teachers to provide instruction in the courses.

Source Agencies: 701 Texas Education Agency

LBB Staff: JMc, SL, AH