

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7311**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 433

**NOTE PREPARED:** Mar 22, 2005

**BILL AMENDED:** Mar 21, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Poet Laureate And Education Matters.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Lubbers

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Behning

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 2<sup>nd</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) **(A)** The bill establishes a process for selecting a state Poet Laureate. The bill specifies the duties and compensation of the Poet Laureate. The bill provides that the person honored as the Poet Laureate by the House of Representatives in 2002 is entitled to serve as the initial Poet Laureate.

**(B)** The bill changes the name of the School For The Blind to the School For The Blind And Visually Impaired. The bill makes certain changes to the qualifications for the superintendents of the School For The blind And Visually Impaired and the School For The Deaf, and changes the title of *superintendent* to *chief executive officer* for each school.

**(C)** The bill makes technical corrections to conform with the Title 20 recodification.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2005.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) **(A)** All expenses and other payments are made from appropriations to or other funds of the Arts Commission. The Arts Commission Administration appropriation for the FY 2005 biennium was \$3,617,337 per year. The balance in the Arts Commission Trust Fund was \$556,783 as of December 15, 2004.

*Selection Committee:* The bill would establish an eight-member selection committee made up of an executive director and one faculty member in the fine arts or English departments from various colleges and universities in Indiana. The faculty member would be appointed by the president of the institution represented. The selection committee would meet biennially to select the Poet Laureate.

Members of the selection committee may receive travel expense reimbursement, if they do not receive reimbursement from their institution.

*Poet Laureate:* The Poet Laureate would make formal appearances at schools, (including the School For The Blind and School For the Deaf) libraries, and other educational facilities; offer advice to the Arts Commission about poetry; and represent the state and the art of poetry to the educational community and public. The Arts Commission would pay the Poet Laureate an annual honorarium of \$2,500 per year for the two-year term. In addition to paying the expenses for the Poet Laureate, the Arts Commission may pay a per diem for appearances. As the Poet Laureate selected by the House of Representatives in 2002 would serve as the first state Poet Laureate, expenditures would begin upon the effective date of the bill.

**(B) Summary:** Under the bill, the name of the School For The Blind would be changed to: the School For The Blind And Visually Impaired. The bill would change the name of *superintendent* of the School For The Blind and School For The Deaf to *chief executive officer*. The provision would require the two schools to update business cards and stationary. In addition the School For The Blind would likely replace their signs.

The bill does not provide an appropriation to cover the expenditure for the proposed changes, however the expenses incurred may be covered under their existing budget.

*Background:* The General Assembly appropriated \$10.4 M to the School For The Blind from the state General Fund and \$122,028 from dedicated funds in FY 2005. Total General Fund expenditure for the School For The Blind was \$10.6 M in FY 2004. The School For The Blind expended \$20,993 for stationary/office supplies in FY 2004. The School For The Deaf expended \$14,027 for stationary/office supplies in FY 2004.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Education; Arts Commission; Indiana School for The Blind; Indiana School for The Deaf.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Object Trial Balance June 30, 2004; *State of Indiana List of Appropriations: July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005.*

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