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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6995**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1338

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 27, 2006

**BILL AMENDED:** Jan 26, 2006

**SUBJECT:** School Improvement Progress and Awards.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Harris T

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 1<sup>st</sup> House

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

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) *School Improvement Award Program*- The bill establishes additional criteria for determining a school's improvement compared with the school's performance in previous years. The bill provides a graduated series of awards based on improvement. The bill also revises the purposes for which a grant may be used. It repeals certain prohibitions on the use of performance based awards granted under IC 20-31-11.

*Heimlich Maneuver Training*- This bill requires certain schools to have an employee who has received instruction on the Heimlich maneuver or a similar procedure present while students are being served food. The bill establishes immunity from liability for an act or omission in the performance of these duties.

*Teacher Licensing Examinations*- It allows a person who has failed the teacher licensing examination at least two times to demonstrate proficiency by having the person's teacher education school or department certify to the Department of Education that the person possesses the content knowledge required by the examination.

*Requirements for Initial Teacher Licensing*- This bill requires the Department of Education to submit to the Education Roundtable for review and approval certain requirements for initial teacher licensing.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2006.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) *School Improvement Award Program*- The Department of Education's current level of resources should be adequate to administer the School Improvement Award Program (SIAP).

Under the bill, the Department would be allowed to use gifts and grants to provide funding for the SIAP. The bill would also allow the SIAP to receive appropriations from the General Assembly. Monetary awards given under the proposed program would depend on the source and amount of funds that would be received by the program. The Department would determine the award amounts. Barring reception of donations, new grants, or use of existing grants, the source of funds for awards would depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

*Background Department of Education-* As of October 4, 2005, the Department of Education had 295 full-time, four part-time, 11 intermittent employees, and six employees on leave. The Department reverted \$0.9 M in FY 2005.

*Teacher Licensing Examinations-* A teacher education school would be allowed to certify to the Department of Education that an applicant is proficient in a test area if the applicant has twice scored below the cut-score on that test area by no more than two points. Applicants pay to take the qualifying examination. Therefore, the Department's existing resources should be sufficient to implement this provision.

*Background:* PRAXIS examinations are given by ETS (the current PRAXIS vendor) to applicants directly at various colleges and universities in the state. The PRAXIS examination is currently offered in either paper/pencil or computer-based form. Applicants may retake the examination an unlimited number of times. The fee is \$35 per test area for the Praxis I paper/pencil examination. All three required categories (reading, writing, and mathematics) total \$105 in fees.

The following table shows the current cut-scores for both versions of PRAXIS I.

Test Area	Paper/Pencil	Computer
Reading	176	323
Writing	172	318
Mathematics	175	320

*Requirements for Initial Teacher Licensing-* The Department would have until October 1, 2006, to submit initial teacher licensing requirements to the Education Roundtable. The Department's existing resources should be sufficient to report the license requirements to the Roundtable.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** (Revised) *Heimlich Maneuver Training-* The bill would affect approximately 1,850 public schools out of approximately 2,030 total schools that offered the federal school lunch and breakfast program in 2004.

If every traditional public school were to pay for classes to train one staff member in first aid and the Heimlich maneuver, the total cost to local school expenditures would be approximately \$120,000 statewide and \$132,000 if charters and private/parochial schools are included. The average cost per school corporation would be about \$410.

Schools may be able to offset the cost of training within existing resources. The impact to local expenditures would depend on how many school personnel would need to be trained in first aid and the Heimlich maneuver to ensure that at least one staff member is present when students are served food. If a school already had the sufficient trained staff, no additional expenditure would be needed for that particular school.

*Background Information:* Current cost for training in first aid through the American Red Cross is \$65 per person. This price is uniform throughout all Red Cross chapters in Indiana.

If local fire departments offered CPR and first aid classes for free, the cost of training could be minimized or eliminated. However, at least two fire departments in the Marion County area no longer offer CPR instruction to the general public. One of these departments does occasionally offer CPR classes to large companies in the area.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** (Revised) *School Improvement Award Program-* Under the bill, schools would be eligible for the following awards:

- (1) Grants to certified employees for professional development,
- (2) School programs to increase parental involvement,
- (3) Enhanced curriculum or instruction.

To determine eligibility for an award, schools would be graded on improvement in performance factors including:

- (1) ISTEP scores (with each of the following categories compared as separate performance factor: minority groups, high achievement, limited English proficiency, and students qualifying for free/reduced price lunch.)
- (2) For high schools: graduation rates.

Schools could receive varying awards based on improvements in graduation and the individual ISTEP categories listed above.

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Education; Education Roundtable.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local schools.

**Information Sources:** *State of Indiana HRM Detail Staffing Report, October 4, 2005*; State Budget Agency: *FY2005 General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries*; Department of Education SAS DATABASES, Indianapolis Red Cross website- [www.redcross-indy.org](http://www.redcross-indy.org); Terry McConkey, Lawrence Township (Marion County) Fire Department, 317-845-4933; Indianapolis Fire Department 317-327-6041; Educational Testing Service: [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org); Indiana Department of Education, Division of Professional Standards website: [www.doe.state.in.us/dps/faq/teachertesting.html](http://www.doe.state.in.us/dps/faq/teachertesting.html).

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