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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6321

BILL NUMBER: SB 84

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 2, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: General Assembly Access to Research Resources.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Delph

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires state educational institutions to make research tools used by state educational institutions available to legislators and staff of the Legislative Services Agency.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill would provide legislators and LSA staff with access, free of charge, to state educational institution research tools, provided the use of the research tools is related to carrying out the official duties of a state legislator. A research tool includes: (1) online research services; (2) online and hard copy subscriptions to publications; and (3) any other source of information used for research available to an educational institution. The bill also exempts from the access requirement research tools purchased through a grant or other source that limits access in a way that would make granting access under the bill a violation of the grant or agreement covering the payment for the research tool.

The potential administrative impact on state educational institutions likely will relate to access to library services, and library research materials and resources in hard copy and electronic medium. Potential impacts from the bill may be as follows:

(1) The bill could potentially result in minimal additional costs to state educational institutions relating to programming and production of library cards to provide access to library research resources. Ultimately these costs would depend on the number of additional users.

(2) There could be additional licensing or subscription costs to extend access to copyrighted material in electronic medium (such as electronic books or electronic periodical databases) to additional users who are

not students enrolled in, or employees of, state educational institutions. The extent to which additional subscription fees may be required is unknown and may vary depending on the database and the database provider.

(3) Reportedly, there are electronic media and resources obtained by subscription that cannot be made available to persons other than students, faculty, and staff, regardless of subscription cost.

(4) State educational institutions may require additional software resources relating to network firewalls to allow remote access to library resources by legislators or LSA staff. The extent of this cost is unknown but could be minimal if institutions and their libraries already allow remote access by students and employees.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State educational institutions; General Assembly, Legislative Services Agency.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

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