

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**House Committee On Education****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued**Action Date:** 04/17/15**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments, Be Printed Engrossed And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference.**Meeting Dates:** 03/30, 04/06, 04/17**Vote:**

Yeas: 6 - Doherty, Frederick, McLain, Piluso, Reardon, Sprenger

Nays: 3 - Barreto, Hack, Wilson

Prepared By: Richard Donovan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes advisory group to develop uniform budget coding requirements and reporting requirements. Requires State Board of Education to adopt rules related to uniform budget coding requirements no later than January 1, 2016. Sunsets advisory group on January 2, 2016. Establishes work group. Requires group to identify: criteria for determining if school district is not meeting objectives and needs of English language learner (ELL) students, or needs targeted assistance; information necessary for school district report on ELL student progress, with specific focus on long term ELL students; technical assistance to be provided by ODE; and, guidelines for expenditure of ELL program moneys, to be completed by January, 1, 2016. Further requires the group to make specific recommendations for best practices relating to ELL students and programs. Requires work group to determine best practices relating to specific support services, to be completed by January 1, 2017. Sunsets work group on January 2, 2017. Requires annual report relating to ELL expenditures and outcomes, with first filing of report not later than September 1, 2016. Requires biennial report to Legislative Assembly on results of ELL report. Updates definition of ELL, and requires a statewide plan to support ELL students. Directs department to identify school district not meeting objectives and the needs of ELL students, or in need of targeted assistance. Establishes account for statewide activities related to ELL programs to address costs anticipated as a result of measure. Creates carve out for distributions to account. Requires \$12.5 million biennial distribution from State School Fund to account. Changes "English as a second language" to "English language learner." Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of low rate of high school graduation among ELL students, especially low among young men
- Specific history of challenges facing Latino ELL students
- Value of ELL programs, specifically two-way supported classrooms
- Explanation of \$12.5 million appropriation

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, under the distribution formula for the State School Fund, students designated as belonging to "English language learning" category receive an additional 0.5 weight, for a total weighted Average Daily Membership (ADMw) of 1.5. Within the broad category of ELL programs, there is no specific restriction, and limited reporting, around how this money may be spent.

House Bill 3499-A updates and enhances ELL programs policy by: creating a work group to address challenges to coding and budget transparency; creating a work group to examine ELL program challenges and best practices; increasing financial support for districts not meeting objectives and the needs of ELL students; increased tracking and reporting around ELL program moneys; and, creating a dedicated carve-out from the State School Fund to address ELL funding.