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LB 1153

Revision: 02

Revised on 4/10/08 based on amendments adopted through 4/9/08.

FISCAL NOTE
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES *				
	FY 2008-09		FY 2009-10	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

*Does not include any impact on political subdivisions. See narrative for political subdivision estimates.

LB 1153, as amended, strikes the original provisions of LB 1153 and includes the provisions of LB 990, LB 1125 and LB 650. The provisions of LB 990 regarding certificates of attendance for students receiving special education services have no fiscal impact.

The provisions of LB 1125 amended into the bill pertain to the early childhood endowment and education grant program for at-risk children, birth to age three. The provisions clarify that only earnings from the private endowment for early childhood education are to be deposited in the Early Childhood Education Cash Fund and also require the earnings to be deposited at least annually rather than quarterly. The eligibility of educational service units to receive early childhood grants is eliminated. The bill provides for the use of up to 10%, rather than 5%, of funds in the Early Childhood Grant Program for evaluation and technical assistance.

There is no fiscal impact in terms of changing the total amount of funds for the early childhood program. However, the bill changes the allocation of funds. Assuming annual funding of \$2 - \$3 million for the program, the bill provides for up to \$200,000 - \$300,000 of cash funds, rather than \$100,000 - \$150,000 of cash funds to be used for evaluation and technical assistance. The change will decrease by \$100,000 - \$150,000, the amount which may be provided as grants for early childhood programs.

The provisions of LB 650 provide that in 2008-09, early childhood education programs established by school districts or educational service units which are not receiving a grant through the early childhood education grant program may serve children who meet the age requirements to attend kindergarten, but are not of mandatory attendance age. The bill may have a minimal fiscal impact in terms of reduced state aid in 2009-10 for districts in which eligible children do not attend kindergarten in 2008-09 due to the provisions of the bill. It is assumed the option to serve these children will not cause an appreciable increase in the cost of early childhood programs for school districts and ESU's because it will be a local decision to accept the children in the program.