

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Session 2013

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 45 (Second Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Internet Access for Public Schools.

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Tolson, Johnson, Horn, and Saine

FISCAL IMPACT (\$ in thousands)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No Estimate Available		
State Impact	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17	FY 2017-18
General Fund Revenues:	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
General Fund Expenditures:	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
State Positions:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NET STATE IMPACT	(\$100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:
Department of Public Instruction

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:
None

BILL SUMMARY:

This bill requires the State Board of Education to:

1. Establish a standard for sufficient classroom wireless connectivity for a digital learning environment; and
2. Conduct an inventory of the wireless access and bandwidth capacity of each public school in the State based on that standard.

The State Board of Education must report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and to the Joint Legislative Committee on Information Technology by December 1, 2013, on the inventory results, its recommendations on ways to achieve a sufficient standard of wireless access and bandwidth in all classrooms, and the cost of achieving that standard.

Section 2 makes a nonrecurring appropriation of \$100,000 to the Department of Public Instruction in order to implement the act.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Section 2 provides a nonrecurring appropriation of \$100,000 to the Department of Public Instruction in order to implement the act. This amount should be sufficient to implement the requirements of the act. In addition to surveying schools to determine school-level wireless and bandwidth capacity, funds will allow regionally-based personnel working through the existing Connectivity initiative to visit schools to verify data fidelity.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Public Instruction

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION: (919) 733-4910

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DATE: March 7, 2013



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