COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2239H.01I Bill No.: HB 937

Subject: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Education, Elementary and

Secondary; Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development; Higher

Education; Civil Rights

Type: Original

Date: February 25, 2025

Bill Summary: This proposal provides protections against discrimination and antisemitism

in public schools and public postsecondary educational institutions.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	
General Revenue*	(\$230,574)	(\$273,248)	(\$278,083)	
Total Estimated Net				
Effect on General				
Revenue	(\$230,574)	(\$273,248)	(\$278,083)	

^{*}Oversight notes the proposal requires DESE and DHEWD each to hire a Title VI coordinator (2 FTE) to fulfill the duties as outlined.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	
Total Estimated Net				
Effect on Other State				
Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

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ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	
Total Estimated Net				
Effect on All Federal				
Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	
General Revenue	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE	
Total Estimated Net				
Effect on FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE	

- ⊠ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- ☐ Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS				
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0	

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FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§§ 160.014, 160.015, and 173.002 - Protections Against Discrimination

Section 160.015

Officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume section 160.015.7 would require DESE to hire a Title VI coordinator to fulfill the duties as outlined. "The state board of education shall establish a Title VI coordinator to monitor antisemitic discrimination and harassment at educational institutions. Each educational institution shall report incidents and complaints of antisemitic discrimination or harassment to such coordinator through a process established for such reporting." DESE assumes this would require a coordinator level position with associated salary (\$90,816), fringe, expenses and equipment.

Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect the estimated impact by DESE in the fiscal note.

Officials from **Washington School District** assume there is a financial impact for HB 937 of \$125,000 for the first year and then \$100,000 annually. The addition of a FTE for the Title VI Coordinator is \$70,000 with additional training \$5,000, and curriculum/course work \$50,000.

Oversight notes Section 160.015.7 (1) states the State Board of Education shall establish a Title VI coordinator to monitor antisemitic discrimination and harassment at educational institutions. Each educational institution shall report incidents and complaints of antisemitic discrimination or harassment to such coordinator through a process established for such reporting. Therefore, Oversight assumes any costs to educational institutions can be absorbed with existing resources and will not be reflected in the fiscal note.

Section 173.002

Officials from **Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (DHEWD)** assume section 173.002.7 requires the coordinating board for higher education establish a Title VI coordinator to monitor, investigate, and report on antisemitic discrimination and harassment at educational institutions. The implementation of this bill would require a new FTE at DHEWD to provide oversight and compliance. The anticipated position level is Program Specialist. They project an initial equipment expense for a computer (\$1,865) and \$2,945 for additional furniture, office space, supplies and ITSD support. Ongoing supplies and ITSD support were also factored in for FY27 and FY28.

Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect the estimated impact by DHEWD in the fiscal note.

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Officials from the **University of Central Missouri** assume there would be an indeterminate fiscal impact. There is a possible increase in cost to update policies and track or monitor reports.

Oversight notes Section 1703.002.7 (1) states the State Board of Education shall establish a Title VI coordinator to monitor antisemitic discrimination and harassment at educational institutions. Each educational institution shall report incidents and complaints of antisemitic discrimination or harassment to such coordinator through a process established for such reporting. Therefore, Oversight assumes any costs to educational institutions can be absorbed with existing resources and will not be reflected in the fiscal note.

Bill as Whole

Oversight notes this proposal states prohibited conduct as it relates specifically to antisemitism shall be incorporated into such educational institution's student, faculty, and employee codes of conduct and shall include penalties for harassment of and discrimination against Jews in compliance with antidiscrimination regulations promulgated under Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, by the United States Department of Education and the United States Department of Justice.

Oversight assumes that there is potential for loss of federal funding and legal action for noncompliance. However, refusal to grant assistance is the ultimate enforcement action. There are other available alternatives actions, such as court enforcement, administrative action, and inducing voluntary compliance. For the purposes of the fiscal note, Oversight assumes alternative actions will be taken to enforce compliance. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact to school districts in the fiscal note.

Officials from the **Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**, **Missouri House of Representatives**, and **the Missouri Senate** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Officials from the **University of Missouri** and **Northwest Missouri State University** both assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Oversight received a limited number of responses from school districts, colleges and universities related to the fiscal impact of this proposal. Oversight has presented this fiscal note on the best current information available. Upon the receipt of additional responses, Oversight will review to determine if an updated fiscal note should be prepared and seek the necessary approval to publish a new fiscal note.

FISCAL IMPACT – State Government	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
	(10 Mo.)		
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost</u> – DESE –(§160.015) p.3			
Personnel Service	(\$75,680)	(\$92,632)	(\$94,485)
Fringe Benefits	(\$43,493)	(\$52,919)	(\$53,662)
Expense & Equipment	(\$15,227)	(\$12,580)	(\$12,831)
<u>Total Costs</u> - DESE	(\$134,400)	(\$158,131)	(\$160,978)
FTE Change - DESE	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
Cost - DHEWD - (§173.002) p.3			
Personnel Service	(\$55,828)	(\$68,333)	(\$69,700)
Fringe Benefits	(\$35,536)	(\$43,180)	(\$43,728)
Expense & Equipment	(\$4,810)	(\$3,604)	(\$3,677)
<u>Total Costs</u> - DHEWD	(\$96,174)	(\$115,117)	(\$117,105)
FTE Change - DHEWD	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON			
GENERAL REVENUE	<u>(\$230,574)</u>	<u>(\$273,248)</u>	<u>(\$278,083)</u>
Estimated Net FTE Change on General			
Revenue	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE

FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
	(10 Mo.)		
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill defines "antisemitism" and requires that public schools, school districts, and public institutions of higher education integrate the definition of antisemitism into codes of conduct and prohibit antisemitic conduct.

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Public schools, school districts, and public institutions of higher education are encouraged to incorporate antisemitism awareness training for all employees and integrate a Jewish American heritage curriculum for students.

The bill prohibits discrimination by public schools, school districts, and public institutions of higher education on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or marital status against students or employees. The bill provides that classes, guidance services, counseling services, and financial assistance services be available equally.

The bill requires the State Board of Education and the Coordinating Board for Higher Education to establish Title VI coordinators to monitor antisemitic discrimination and harassment at public schools and education institutions. The coordinators will investigate complaints and determine if an education institution allowed or failed to prohibit the discrimination and harassment and compile annual reports to be submitted to the General Assembly by July 1st of each year.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
University of Missouri
Washington School District
Northwest Missouri State University
University of Central Missouri
Missouri House of Representatives
Missouri Senate

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Jessica Harris Assistant Director February 25, 2025