

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 3158H.01I
Bill No.: HB 1555
Subject: Education, Elementary and Secondary; Department of Elementary and Secondary
Education; Agriculture
Type: Original
Date: March 5, 2025

Bill Summary: This proposal changes a pilot agricultural education program in elementary schools to a statewide program.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
General Revenue	(\$123,235)	(\$116,000)	(\$116,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$123,235)	(\$116,000)	(\$116,000)

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

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

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

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

- ☐ 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 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)

*Oversight notes this proposal requires school districts to implement the elementary agriculture education program full time. This would require school districts to purchase curriculum and lesson materials.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Section 178.530 - Pilot Program for Agricultural Education in Elementary Schools

Officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume section 178.530 would expand an agricultural education pilot program to all schools.

In order to implement the program as described elementary teachers will need to receive training for the implementation. One approach would be to provide this instruction through the nine RPDCs. DESE estimates one contract with the RPDCs at an annual cost of \$116,000. This contract would include an initial meeting with 20 participants representing various commodity associations with hotel/meal/mileage reimbursement for the cost of \$7,235 in order to review the program and finalize training. This program exists in some schools at this time and so DESE expects this contract with the RPDCs and the initial meeting to meet the need to implement statewide.

Upon further inquiry, DESE provided data that shows there are 1,208 elementary schools across Missouri, of those 1,208 only 40 schools participated over the three-year trial in the pilot program. However, it is noted that during the second and third year of the program schools were affected by the pandemic which affected the participation. DESE could not provide how many schools have continued the program after the pilot has ended.

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

Officials from the **Maries Co. R-II School District**, a district that participated in the pilot program for two years, stated they did not have any real cost. The materials were provided by the pilot program. The only costs were the teachers' time during the school day.

Officials from **Washington School District** assume there is a financial impact for HB1026 of \$45,000 for the first year and every 3-5 years for a curriculum cycle- training for elementary staff \$7,000, and curriculum/course work \$45,000.

Oversight notes the required curriculum is copyrighted and is not currently accessible to all teachers in Missouri. DESE is currently working with mySci program and institute for School Partnership to provide this for a fee. Oversight assumes there could be costs including staff, purchase of curriculum/course work, and any other materials relevant to implement the proposal. Therefore, Oversight will reflect zero (school continued program after pilot ended) to an unknown cost in the fiscal note.

Oversight received a limited number of responses from School Districts 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.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Costs – DESE</u> Contractor/ Professional development - §178.530 p.3	(\$116,000)	(\$116,000)	(\$116,000)
<u>Costs – DESE</u> Work Group-Initial Coordinator Meeting - §178.530 p.3	(\$7,235)	\$0	\$0
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>(\$123,235)</u>	<u>(\$116,000)</u>	<u>(\$116,000)</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
SCHOOL DISTRICTS			
<u>Costs – School Districts – Implement</u> agriculture education - §178.530 p.3	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON SCHOOL DISTRICTS	<u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u>	<u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u>	<u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

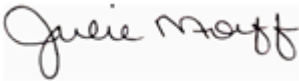
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill ends the current pilot program for agriculture education in elementary schools in the 2025-26 school year and requires that beginning in the 2026-27 school year the program be implemented by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education statewide for all elementary schools.

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 Elementary and Secondary Education
Washington School District
Maries Co. R-II School District



Julie Morff
Director
March 5, 2025



Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
March 5, 2025