

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4044H.011
 Bill No.: HB 1905
 Subject: Elementary and Secondary Education; Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Agriculture
 Type: Original
 Date: January 14, 2026

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 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue*	\$0 or (\$126,700)	\$0 or (\$119,000)	\$0 or (\$119,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0 or (\$126,700)	\$0 or (\$119,000)	\$0 or (\$119,000)

*For the 2027-28 school year and all subsequent school years, the pilot program may become a program implemented in all elementary schools in the state.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
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 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
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 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government*	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)	\$0 or (Unknown)

*For the 2027-28 school year and all subsequent school years, the pilot program may become a program implemented in all elementary schools in the state.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§178.530 - Pilot Program for Agricultural Education in Elementary Schools

Officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume §178.530 would expand an agricultural education pilot program to all elementary schools that elect to be in the program.

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 \$119,000. This contract would include an initial meeting with 20 participants representing various commodity associations to review the program and finalize training at a cost of \$7,700 (hotel/meal/mileage reimbursement). In addition to this cost, elementary teachers whose districts elect to participate in the program will need to be trained. If all districts participate, DESE estimates this cost as follows:

-556 LEAs x 2 elementary teachers per LEA for one day training = \$773,952

-556 LEAs x 2 elementary teachers per LEA for two day training = \$1,547,904

OR if a teacher from each elementary school building participates:

-2319 elementary buildings X 1 teacher per building for one day training = \$1,614,024

-2319 elementary buildings X 1 teacher per building for two day training = \$3,228,048

Oversight notes upon further inquiry with DESE, they assumed the cost to train teachers would only occur if they were called upon. However, the legislation does not require DESE to establish models or create training for teachers participating in the program. Therefore, Oversight will not reflect a cost for DESE to train teachers in the fiscal note.

In response to similar legislation, HB 1555 & 1026 (2025), officials from 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.

Upon further inquiry, DESE assumed if this proposal passes, they will make this a new decision item in their budget. Therefore, since the proposal would be subject to appropriation, **Oversight** will reflect a zero or the estimated impact by DESE in the fiscal note.

Officials from the **High Point R-III School District** assume the proposal will have fiscal impact on their organization but did not provide any additional information.

In response to similar legislation, HB 1555 & 1026 (2025), officials from the **Joplin School District** assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization.

In response to similar legislation, HB 1555 & 1026 (2025), 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.

In response to similar legislation, HB 1555 & 1026 (2025), officials from **Washington School District** assumed 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. For the 2027-28 school year and all subsequent school years, the pilot program may become a program implemented in all elementary schools in the state. Therefore, Oversight will reflect zero (no participation) or an unknown cost in the fiscal note.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other school districts were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. 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. A general listing of political subdivisions included in our database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost – DESE (§178.530) Contractor/ Professional development p.3</u>	\$0 or (\$119,000)	\$0 or (\$119,000)	\$0 or (\$119,000)
<u>Cost – DESE (§178.530) Commodity association meeting p.3</u>	\$0 or (\$7,700)	\$0	\$0
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	\$0 or (\$126,700)	\$0 or (\$119,000)	\$0 or (\$119,000)

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS			
<u>Cost – School Districts (\$178.530)</u> Implement agriculture program p.3	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>	\$0 or <u>(Unknown)</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact on 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 and authorizes that beginning in the 2027-28 school year the program can be implemented by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education statewide for all elementary schools that elect to participate. The bill removes the requirement for reporting to the House and Senate committees on agriculture and education and requires the report to be posted on the Department's website.

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
 Joplin School District
 Washington School District
 Maries Co. R-II School District
 High Point R-III School District



Julie Morff
 Director
 January 14, 2026



Jessica Harris
 Assistant Director
 January 14, 2026