COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

# FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 6266H.01I
Bill No.: HB 2722
Subject: Higher Education; Governor and Lt. Governor; Children and Minors; Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Councils
Type: Original
Date: March 10, 2026

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Bill Summary: This proposal establishes a liaison for postsecondary education for homeless pupils within the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development.

## FISCAL SUMMARY

### ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| General Revenue* | $0 or ($265,139) | $0 or ($317,284) | $0 or ($322,975) |
| | | | |
| **Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue** | **$0 or ($265,139)** | **$0 or ($317,284)** | **$0 or ($322,975)** |

*Oversight assumes the fiscal impact (subject to appropriation) to General Revenue is to fund the Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund.

### ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund* | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| **Total Estimated Net Effect on Other State Funds** | **$0** | **$0** | **$0** |

*Revenue and expenses net to zero.
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 All Federal Funds** | **$0** | **$0** | **$0** |

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)**

| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund | 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 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| **Local Government** | **$0** | **$0** | **$0** |

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§173.2541 - Support for Homeless Pupils Through Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development

Officials from the **Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (DHEWD)** state that as outlined in the bill, a gubernatorial appointed "homeless liaison" is housed within DHEWD. A DHEWD affordability survey revealed nearly 40% of student respondents indicated they have "no consistent place to sleep" (for example, homeless, couch-surfing, living in a car, or shelter).

The individual is responsible for oversight of the homeless liaison activities including conducting a needs assessment, developing a data system to analyze outcomes for homeless pupils, develop a college and career readiness model, collaborate with K12 stakeholders, develop partnerships with other higher education personnel in key areas, identify and refer homeless pupils to mentoring programs, inventory resources, and increase awareness among educators.

The individual is also responsible for building a searchable directory of contacts as well as grant-writing. The bill notes the liaison shall employ staff as necessary to carry out the duties of the office.

To fulfill the duties, it is assumed 2 FTE are required.

As a gubernatorial appointee, the liaison would serve at the Assistant Commissioner level. Assuming mid-point of the range for this position, $124,902.57 would be the budgeted annual salary. This person would oversee the program, establish relationships, and coordinate with DESE, leaders within DHEWD, and higher education leadership.

A Senior Program Specialist ($62,000 annually) would establish the resource inventory, create a contact list, develop an outcomes data system, etc. The department does not assume these data needs will require ITSD support at this time.

Each position would require one-time costs to include:
$1,782 for a computer device/docking/monitor, and an additional
$161.20 for a second monitor.

The Assistant Commissioner will require office furniture ($1,500), and both positions will need ongoing ITSD Expenses ($3,478 per year) and annual E&E such as Training, Travel & Supplies ($5,000 per year).

**Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will the show the impact as estimated by the DHEWD.

**Oversight** notes that the Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund is for the implementation of the duties and providing support for the liaison position for homeless pupils and is subject to appropriations. Oversight will present costs to General Revenue and the corresponding transfer to the Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund as $0 or the amount provided by DHEWD. Oversight further assumes transfers-in and grants provided will net to $0.

Officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** state that there is no impact to DESE. DESE has a Director and Asst Director of Homeless Education with many of the noted items in the legislation happening already.

Officials from the **Office of the Governor (GOV)** states that this bill adds to the Governor's current load of appointment duties. Individually, additional requirements should not fiscally impact the Office of the Governor. However, the cumulative impact of additional appointment duties across all enacted legislation may require additional resources for the Office of the Governor.

**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 **Office of the State Treasurer** and **Office of the Lieutenant Governor** 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.

| FISCAL IMPACT – State Government | FY 2027 (10 Mo.) | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **GENERAL REVENUE** | | | |
| | | | |
| Transfer Out – (§173.2541) To the Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund p.3-4 | $0 or ($265,139) | $0 or ($317,284) | $0 or ($322,975) |
| | | | |
| **ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO GENERAL REVENUE** | **$0 or ($265,139)** | **$0 or ($317,284)** | **$0 or ($322,975)** |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| FISCAL IMPACT – State Government | FY 2027 (10 Mo.) | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **LIAISON FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS PUPILS FUND** | | | |
| | | | |
| Transfer In – (§173.2541) From General Revenue p.3-4 | $0 or $265,139 | $0 or $317,284 | $0 or $322,975 |
| | | | |
| Revenue Gain – (§173.2541) From gifts, grants, & bequests from federal or private source p.3-4 | $0 or Unknown | $0 or Unknown | $0 or Unknown |
| | | | |
| Cost – DHEWD (§173.2541) p.3 | | | |
| Personal Service | ($155,752) | ($190,641) | ($194,453) |
| Fringe Benefits | ($89,870) | ($109,348) | ($110,881) |
| Equipment and Expense | ($19,517) | ($17,295) | ($17,641) |
| Total Cost – DHEWD | ($265,139) | ($317,284) | ($322,975) |
| FTE Change – DHEWD | 2 FTE | 2 FTE | 2 FTE |
| | | | |
| **ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE LIAISON FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FOR HOMELESS PUPILS FUND** | **$0** | **$0** | **$0** |
| | | | |
| Estimated Net FTE Change to the Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund | 2 FTE | 2 FTE | 2 FTE |

| FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government | FY 2027 (10 Mo.) | FY 2028 | FY 2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | **$0** | **$0** | **$0** |
| | | | |

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill requires that the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development establish a liaison position for homeless pupils. The Governor must appoint a liaison to the position for a term of four years. Criteria for the liaison qualifications include, but are not limited to, knowledge of homeless pupil issues and non-partisanship.

The bill outlines the duties of the liaison, which include an annual analysis of homeless pupils and development of a database for rates of graduation of homeless pupils, among other specified duties.

The bill also creates the "Liaison for Postsecondary Education for Homeless Pupils Fund" for the purpose of implementation of the duties and providing support for the position.

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
Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development
Office of the Governor
Office of the State Treasurer
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Julie Morff
Director
March 10, 2026

Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
March 10, 2026