

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 6382S.06F
 Bill No.: SS for SCS for HB 2896
 Subject: Agriculture; Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Councils; Counties;
 Education, Elementary and Secondary; Higher Education; Department of
 Elementary and Secondary Education; Governor and Lt. Governor; Department of
 Higher Education and Workforce Development
 Type: Original
 Date: May 15, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal creates, repeals, and modifies provisions relating to education.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Revenue*	\$0 to (\$126,700)	\$0 to (\$119,000)	(More or Less than \$2,119,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0 to (\$126,700)	\$0 to (\$119,000)	(More or Less than \$2,119,000)

*Oversight notes this proposal in §178.530 expands an agricultural education pilot program to all elementary schools that elect to be in the program this proposal also removes the sunset from §173.831. Costs for the Workforce Diploma Program will continue in FY 2029 and all subsequent years.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on Other 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 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)

*Oversight notes school districts that elect to participate in the agriculture education program could require additional staff, or have additional costs associated with implementing a new program.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Due to time constraints, **Oversight** was unable to receive some agency responses in a timely manner and performed limited analysis. Oversight has presented this fiscal note on the best current information that we have or on information regarding a similar bill(s). Upon the receipt of agency 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.

§173.831 - Workforce Diploma Program

Oversight notes that this section will automatically sunset August 28, 2028. This proposal removes the sunset clause from this section.

Oversight is providing data based on information found in DESE's FY 2027 Budget book for program history regarding the Workforce Diploma Program as seen in the table below:

Year	Budget Authority	Actual Expenditure	Unexpended
2023	\$1,940,000	(\$586,250)	\$1,353,750
2024	\$1,940,000	(\$1,940,000)	\$0
2025	\$3,880,000	(\$3,411,000)	\$469,000
2026 (As of 08/31/2025)	\$1,940,000	(\$481,750)	\$1,458,250

Oversight assumes based on prior fund activity, if the proposal passes, DESE would continue to appropriate funds for the program, the fund is subject to appropriation. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a continued cost for DESE as could exceed \$2,000,000 (based on most consistent appropriation) in FY 2029 for the continuation of the program.

§§174.300, 174.332, 174.450, 174.453, 174.610, 175.020, and 178.632 - Governing Bodies of Certain Public Institutions of Higher Education

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Missouri House of Representatives, Office of the Governor, Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development, Northwest Missouri State University, and Office of the State Treasurer** each assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations.

In response to similar legislation, SB 939 (2026), **Missouri State University** assumed that the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Oversight notes that the above-mentioned agencies have stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their organization. Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact on the fiscal note.

§178.530 – Program for Agricultural Education in Elementary Schools

In response to similar legislation, Perfected SS for SCS for SB 1383 (2026), officials from **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assumed §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). The commodity groups would then assist the RPDC in training elementary teachers across the state to implement the program.

Upon further inquiry, DESE noted that the training of teachers across the state can be handled by the RPDC working in conjunction with the agriculture commodity groups who are already present in many areas across the state.

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

In response to similar legislation, HCS for HB Nos. 2097 & 1905 (2026), officials from the **Missouri Department of Agriculture** assumed the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

In response to similar legislation, HB 2097 (2026), officials from the **High Point R-III School District** assumed 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 for the 2027-28 school year and all subsequent school years, the program may be implemented in elementary schools in which their school board elects to take part in the program. Oversight is unable to determine how many school districts would elect to take participate and of those districts how many would hire additional staff such as an AG teacher. Therefore, Oversight will reflect zero (no participation) or Unknown cost to school districts.

Additionally, Oversight notes with the implementation of any new program, there may be varying costs to school districts based on specific needs for supplies, substitute teachers while training is conducted, and potential other costs to implement the program. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a \$0 or unknown cost to school districts in the fiscal note.

Oversight notes, based on information provided by DESE in the previous version, if districts elect to hire an AG teacher, they can also expect an expense for a teacher. The average Missouri teacher salary without benefits and retirement on a standard 10-month contract is \$55,000. An AG teacher on an extended 12-month contract would average \$66,000/year.

Responses regarding the proposed legislation as a whole

Officials from the **Office of the State Treasurer, Missouri Senate, and University of Central Missouri** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

Oversight only reflects the responses that we have received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other colleges and community colleges were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. Upon receiving 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.

Rule Promulgation

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assumed this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** noted many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves

the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Cost</u> – DESE (§173.831) Workforce Diploma Program p.3	\$0	\$0	(Could exceed \$2,000,000)
<u>Cost</u> – DESE (§178.530) Contractor/ Professional development p.4-5	\$0 to (\$119,000)	\$0 to (\$119,000)	\$0 to (\$119,000)
<u>Cost</u> – DESE (§178.530) Commodity association meeting p.4-5	<u>\$0 to (\$7,700)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>\$0 to (\$126,700)</u>	<u>\$0 to (\$119,000)</u>	(More or Less than <u>\$2,119,000</u>)

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS			
<u>Cost</u> – School Districts (§178.530) Hire additional staff p.4-5	\$0	\$0 to (Unknown)	\$0 to (Unknown)
<u>Cost</u> – School Districts (§178.530) Implement agriculture program p.4-5	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u>	<u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u>	<u>\$0 to (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 proposal modifies provisions relating to the governing bodies of certain public institutions of higher education.

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
Missouri Department of Agriculture
Office of the Governor
Missouri State University
Northwest Missouri State University
University of Central Missouri
Missouri House of Representatives
Missouri Senate
Office of Attorney General
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of the State Courts Administrator
Joplin School District
High Point R-III School District
Maries Co. R-II School District
Republic R-III School District
Washington School District
Wellington-Napoleon R-IX School District
Sedalia 200 School District
Office of the State Treasurer
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
Office of the Secretary of State



Julie Morff
Director
May 15, 2026



Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
May 15, 2026