

## Department of Planning and Budget 2002 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB624

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed

**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron**    Barry

**3. Committee**    Education and Health

**4. Title**    Educational opportunities; reading improvement.

5. **Summary/Purpose:** This bill adds to the program that are currently provided under the rubric of educational opportunities a pilot project to increase literacy, ensure that all students can read, and encourage academic achievement among at-risk schools. The Board of Education will select three school divisions, each having at least two elementary schools, at least one middle school, and at least one high school, that are "Accredited with Warning" and will offer, with such funds as may be available for such purpose, the three selected school divisions the opportunity to participate in a two-year pilot public/private partnership project as part of each school's required three-year School Improvement Plan.

6. **Fiscal Impact (See 8.)**

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** No.

8. **Fiscal implications:** Each participating school division would be required to contract with private sector reading specialists to offer reading instruction to underachieving students who are reading below grade level, as defined in Board of Education regulations. The Department of Education is required to evaluate each pilot project. Affected school divisions would supply the names of private sector reading specialists to parents of underachieving students. nt

It is estimated that five school divisions are currently eligible to participate in the program. There may not be sufficient private sector reading specialists available to provide service to these school divisions.

This bill does not have a fiscal impact on the state, since funds for the program would only be provided as they become available.

9. **Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** School divisions, Board of Education, Department of Education

10. **Technical amendment necessary:** No.

11. **Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 2/05/02/acd

**Document:**H: \BOS\K12Legislation \2002Session \CompletedBills \SB624.doc.

cc:SecretaryofEducation  
SecretaryofFinance