

**Department of Planning and Budget  
2003 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number** HB1503

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

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

**2. Patron** Landes

**3. Committee** Education

**4. Title** High school diplomas; civics education seal.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** This bill directs the Board of Education, by July 1, 2003, to establish criteria for awarding a diploma seal for excellence in civics education and understanding of the state and federal constitutions and the democratic model of government for the standard and advanced studies diploma seals. In doing so, the Board shall consider including criteria for (i) successful completion of history, government, and civics courses, including courses that incorporate character education; (ii) voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities; and (iii) related requirements as it deems appropriate.

**6. Minimal Fiscal Impact**

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

**8. Fiscal implications:** Currently, diploma seals are available related to the following areas: (1) Governor's seal [Advanced Studies] diploma; (2) Board of Education seal [average grade of "A"]; (3) career and technical education; and (4) advanced mathematics and technology. In order to provide a civics seal, a change to the Standards of Accreditation may be required. The state cost would be minimal.

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

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

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 01/09/03/acd

**Document:** H: \bos\k12\legislation\2003session\completedbills\HB1503.doc.

cc: Secretary of Education  
Secretary of Finance