

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB105

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Lucas

3. Committee: Finance and Appropriations

4. Title: National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund; eligibility; incentive grant.

5. Summary: Renames the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund as the National Board Certification Incentive Reward Program and Fund, expands eligibility for incentive grant awards from such Fund pursuant to such Program from solely teachers who have obtained national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards to (i) all public school staff who are candidates for initial national certification or maintenance of national certification to cover certain costs of obtaining or maintaining such certification and (ii) all public school staff who have successfully obtained or maintained such certification. The bill also declares as eligible for an annual incentive grant award in the amount of \$7,500 all public school staff who have obtained or maintained such certification. Current law declares as eligible for an annual incentive grant award of \$5,000 in the first year and \$2,500 in each subsequent year all teachers who have obtained or maintained such certification.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 124.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would expand the existing National Teacher Certification Incentive Program by expanding the number of eligible teachers and increasing the annual award.

Based on the number of teachers who currently receive the award, the Department of Education (DOE) estimates that the additional state cost to increase the award amount, currently \$5,000 for an initial award and \$2,500 annually thereafter, to \$7,500 per individual would be approximately \$7,945,000 per year.

The bill also expands eligibility for grants to staff who are candidates for initial national certification or maintenance of national certification (MOC), to include half of the certification fee and the registration fee upon initial registration and the balance of the certification fee upon successful achievement of the certification. The current cost of initial

certification is \$1,900 plus a \$75 registration fee. The current cost to maintain the certification is \$495 plus a \$75 registration fee. At this time, it is not possible to determine the additional number of individuals that would be eligible to receive a grant based on the allowance for initial certification or the MOC schedule for existing or future certified staff. Therefore, the annual cost to support these fees is indeterminate at this time; however there would be an additional state cost each year to support these additional grants.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Education

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to HB708.