

## Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB156

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Hashmi

**3. Committee:** Education and Health

**4. Title:** Public schools; English language learners.

**5. Summary:** Requires state funding to be provided to support new division wide ratios of English learner students in average daily membership to full-time equivalent teaching positions, as follows: (i) for each English language learner identified as proficiency level one, one position per 25 students; (ii) for each English language learner identified as proficiency level two, one position per 30 students; (iii) for each English language learner identified as proficiency level three, one position per 40 students; and (iv) for all other English language learners, one position per 50 students. Under the bill, in order to provide additional support for instruction of English language learners, \$150 shall be appropriated in year one to divisions for each English learner student to support professional development of instructional and support staff, purchase resources developed for students learning English, and offer grants to community-based organizations that offer support services to English language learners in school settings.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 137.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, see Item 8.

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2023	\$13,300,000	GF
2024	(5,400,000)	GF

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill would amend the current staffing standard for instructional positions for English language learners. Current law requires 20 instructional positions per 1,000 students identified as having limited English proficiency. The Governor's introduced budget, HB/SB 30, 2022 General Assembly Session, funds additional positions at a ratio of 22 instructional positions per 1,000 students. The Department of Education estimates that funding instructional positions as required in this bill would result in a savings of \$1.6 million in fiscal year 2023 and \$5.4 million in fiscal year 2024.

This bill also requires an appropriation to local school divisions of \$150 per English language learner to support professional development. The cost to provide these one-time payments to

local school divisions in fiscal year 2023 is estimated to be \$14.9 million. Local school divisions would not be required to provide local matching funds for these payments.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Local school divisions, Department of Education

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** The phrase “year one” used in line 85 is unclear in terms of an ongoing and permanent staffing standard. For the purpose of this analysis, it assumed that this is intended to be a one-time appropriation in the first year the new standard would be in effect, fiscal year 2023/school year 2022-2023.