

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 945 CS

Instructional Materials for Public School Education

SPONSOR(S): Cretul

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS:

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) PreK-12 Committee	9 Y, 0 N, w/CS	Davis	Mizereck
2) Education Appropriations Committee			
3) Education Council			
4) _____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____	_____	_____	_____

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

House bill 945 requires district school boards to purchase a set of textbooks in core classes for each sixth through eighth grade classroom. The bill provides that the purchase of these textbooks will not affect the issuance of textbooks to each student.

There is a fiscal impact associated with this bill. See FISCAL COMMENTS for further information.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Empower families—Students will have textbooks at home for the completion of homework.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Background

Instructional materials are defined as “items having intellectual content that by design serve as a major tool for assisting the instruction of a subject or course.” Instructional materials are funded as a categorical item in the General Appropriations Act (GAA); in the 2005-2006 school year, the GAA provided \$249.9 million for instructional materials. School districts are directed to use at least 50% of funds for the purchase of instructional materials on the state-adopted list. The remaining funds may be used for instructional materials not on the state-adopted list and for repair and renovation of textbooks. Each year, the state adopts instructional materials for specific classes for a 6 year adoption cycle. Within the first two years of the adoption cycle, each school district is required to purchase current instructional materials for each student in core courses.¹

Under current law², district school boards are required to provide adequate instructional materials for each student. “Adequate instructional materials” refers to a sufficient number of textbooks or sets of materials serving as the basis for instruction for each student in the core courses. District school boards are responsible for proper requisitioning, distribution, accounting, storage, care, and use of all instructional materials furnished by the state and other instructional materials as may be needed. District school boards are also responsible for assuring that instructional materials used in the district are consistent with district goals and objectives, the curriculum adopted by rule of the State Board of Education, and state and district performance standards.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill requires district school boards to purchase additional textbooks to remain in each sixth through eighth grade classroom for classroom use by each student **and aligns this purchase to correspond with the two-year adoption cycle for each subject**. The bill provides that the purchase of these textbooks will not affect the issuance of textbooks to each student.

The bill provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Amends s. 1006.28, F.S., requiring district school boards to purchase sufficient textbooks for each classroom for grades 6 through 8.

Section 2: Provides an effective date of July 1, 2006.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

¹ See 2006 Education Fact Sheet on Instructional Materials

² s. 1006.28, F.S.

1. Revenues:

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state revenues.

2. Expenditures:

See FISCAL COMMENTS.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government revenues.

2. Expenditures:

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local government expenditures.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill does not appear to have a direct economic impact on the private sector.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

The cost of providing an extra set of textbooks for classroom use in grades 6 through 8 is approximately **\$7 million annually**. This cost is based on the assumption that one set of books could be used by four classes and would be funded through the instructional materials categorical.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not require a city or county to spend funds or to take any action requiring the expenditure of funds.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

On March 21, 2006, the PreK-12 Committee adopted one amendment to the bill. The amendment requires the purchase, not issuance, of a classroom set of textbooks for use in each core curriculum classroom in grades 6 through 8, and aligns the purchase with the current two-year textbook adoption cycle.