

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 19, 2017

TO: Honorable Larry Taylor, Chair, Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2937 by Canales (Relating to the establishment of a pilot program under which a licensed hospital may offer dual credit courses to public high school students.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Under the provisions of the bill, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) would be required to develop and implement the medical dual credit program, through which up to three hospitals meeting certain qualifications, selected by TEA, could offer dual credit courses to high school students under a partnership with a school district. Students participating in the medical dual credit program could not be charged for tuition, fees, or required textbooks or other instructional materials; school districts would be required to cover these costs to the extent that they were not waived by the hospital offering the program. Participating students would be entitled to the benefits of the Foundation School Program for the time spent in the dual credit course, in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner of TEA.

According to TEA, there would be costs associated with these activities, including for staff and necessary technology updates to implement the program. For the purposes of this analysis, it is assumed the costs to TEA associated with the bill would not be significant and could be absorbed within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

According to TEA, the impact to school districts would depend upon whether participating hospitals waive relevant course costs including tuition and textbooks, and whether Foundation School Program funding would cover other costs of the pilot program. TEA also assumes that participating school districts would be required to provide supervisory staff and transportation to and from the hospital.

Source Agencies: 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 701 Texas Education Agency, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 769 University of North Texas System Administration

LBB Staff: UP, THo, JJ, AKU, RC