

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H. 3905**

(Doc. No. 19960ab13.docx)

TO:	The Honorable Phillip D. Owens, Chairperson, House Education and Public Works Committee		
FROM:	State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Rachael Fulmer		
DATE:	April 8, 2014	SBD:	2014123

AUTHOR:	Representative Loftis	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	59-29-15
SUBJECT:	Back to Basics in Education Act of 2013		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

This Bill would amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, so as to enact the “Back to Basics in Education Act of 2013” by adding Section 59-29-15 that would add cursive writing and memorization of multiplication tables to the required subjects of instruction in public schools, to require students demonstrate competence in each subject before completion of the fifth grade, to provide the State Department of Education to assist the School Districts in identifying the most appropriate means for integrating this requirement into existing curriculums, and to make the provisions of this Bill applicable beginning with the 2013-2014 school year.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The State Department of Education indicates no impact to the State General Fund and/or Federal and Other Funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

The Department estimates that each classroom would need \$1,000 for teacher materials and \$11.29 per book for each student. The cost for training each teacher is \$100. Costs would vary by local school district depending on that number of students and teachers. The number of teachers affected by this Bill would be 25,106. Estimated teacher materials could cost the local school districts \$25,106,100, and estimated travel costs for local school districts could be as much as \$2,510,600.

According to the Department, there are 699 elementary schools throughout the State. For example, if an elementary school has 3 classes of Kindergarten, 4 classes of 1st grade, 3 classes of 2nd grade, 4 classes of 3rd grade, 3 classes of 4th grade and 3 classes of 5th grade, the costs of materials for that elementary school would be \$26,774.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division