

**NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used in any other situation.**

**Only the most recent FIR version, excluding attachments, is available on the Intranet. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC office in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.**

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Adair DATE TYPED: 02/19/01 HB \_\_\_\_\_  
 SHORT TITLE: Change Class Load Requirements SB 184  
 ANALYST: Segura

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY01	FY02	FY01	FY02		
			\$ 21,804.6	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Department of Education (SDE)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 184 amends Section 22-2-8.2 of the Public School Code with regard to class load requirements for grades one, two and three.

#### Significant Issues

The bill specifies that individual class load for elementary school teachers shall not exceed 20 students for grade one and 22 students for grades two and three. Teachers in grade one with a class load of 20 students and teachers in grades two and three with a class load of 22 students shall receive full-time assistance or an instructional assistant.

If enacted, the averaging among grades one, two and three to determine the class load for elementary school teachers will no longer be allowed. Class load will be determined on an individual teacher basis.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

According to SDE, the total estimated general fund costs are \$21,804.6. Based on 1999-2000 120<sup>th</sup> day personnel and class data and 2000-2001 average salary and benefits, the following are the estimated costs of implementing the new class load requirements:

## **Senate Bill 184 -- Page 2**

GRADE 1: Based on a maximum class load of 20 students for grade 1 teachers, it is estimated that an additional 129 teachers will be needed statewide. Using the average teacher salary of \$34,614 plus benefits at 17.36 %, the estimated cost is \$5,240.4.

GRADE 2: Based on a maximum class load of 22 students for grade 2 and 3 teachers, it is estimated that an additional 330 teachers will be needed statewide. Using the average teacher salary plus benefits, the estimated cost is \$ 13,405.6.

Instructional Assistants for Grades 1,2,and 3: It is estimated than an additional 234 instructional assistants will be needed statewide. The estimated cost is \$3,158.6f.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

The SDE indicates that with the lowering of class sizes, districts would be required to increase both operational and capital outlay budgets in order to accommodate teachers and classes.

RS/ar