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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/24/06

SPONSOR Stewart LAST UPDATED _____ HB 57

SHORT TITLE Middle School International Film Program SB _____

ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	\$400.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates Senate Bill 70.

Relates to an appropriation contained in House Bill 3.

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY06	FY07	FY08	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		\$5.7	\$5.7	\$11.4	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 57 appropriates \$400 thousand from the general fund to the Public Education Department to contract for a program to develop and implement an interdisciplinary international education curriculum using international films for middle school students statewide.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The department notes that managing the contract will require some human resource support and estimates this additional support at \$5.7 thousand.

The appropriation of \$400 thousand contained in the bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Public Education Department reports Global Awareness is a key component of 21st century learning, as defined by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills. Global awareness promotes understanding, tolerance and acceptance of ethnic, cultural, religious and personal differences as they play out in communities and workplaces. It also helps people work through the complexities of different points of view that spring from different parts of the world.

These observations underscore both the importance of international education and the need for access to high-quality, standards-based interdisciplinary curriculum which are not currently available. Film provides a promising medium for developing the required understandings. Research in both educational theory and cognitive psychology tells us that visual learning is among the very best methods for teaching students of all ages how to think and how to learn. Visual learning techniques - graphical ways of working with ideas and presenting information - teach students to clarify their thinking, and to process, organize and prioritize new information.

PA/mt