

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill No:** HB 235a

**49th Legislature, 1st Session, 2009**

**Short Title:** Contracted School Bus Driver Salary Increase

**Sponsor(s):** Representative Thomas A. Garcia

**Analyst:** Peter B. van Moorsel

**Date:** February 10, 2009

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**AS AMENDED**

**The House Labor and Human Resources Committee amendment provides that the Public Education Department may not approve a school district's transportation budget unless salary increases for transportation employees include equivalent increases for contracted school bus drivers and attendants.**

**Original Bill Summary:**

HB 235 amends the *Public School Finance Act* to require that all appropriations to the transportation distribution that provide salary increases for transportation employees include equivalent increases for contracted school bus drivers and attendants.

**Original Fiscal Impact:**

HB 235 contains no appropriation.

Both the Legislative Finance Committee's (LFC's) Fiscal Impact Report (FIR) and the Public Education Department's (PED's) analysis of HB 235 report that this bill would have no fiscal impact.

**Original Issues:**

According to the PED analysis of HB 235, any salary increases in the transportation distribution appropriation in the *General Appropriation Act* for each fiscal year include salary increases for all transportation employees, including school employees and contracted employees, based on actual expenses from the previous year. If contractors pass all of the salary increases on to their employees, the salary increases would indeed be the same.

However, the LFC FIR reports that contractors do not always pass on these increases to their employees. The FIR adds that the intent of HB 235 may be to require contractors to pass salary increases on to their employees.

**Related Bill:**

\*HB 191 *Interim School Transportation Task Force*