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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 03/08/09

SPONSOR Eichenberg LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE School Emphasis on Country & Flag SM 57

ANALYST Wilson

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total		Unknown See Below	Unknown See Below		Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 57 requests PED to encourage school boards to place more emphasis on Americanism and respect for our country and flag.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

PED notes that additional texts or other resources may be needed by districts to support Americanism.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The memorial reads that there has been a continuing decline in our nation's schools in the areas of Americanism and proper respect for the American flag.

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The American legion supports continuing education in our nation's schools in the areas of Americanism and proper respect for the flag;

PED provided the following:

The criteria for public school students' respect to the flag of the United States may need to be examined.

An unintended outcome of the memorial might be to encourage English Language only or discrimination based on national origin or immigration status.

Respect for the flag may raise issues regarding previous lawsuits brought by the American Civil Liberties Union. The rights of students as United States citizens should be examined.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Secretary of PED may need to distribute information on Americanism topics and respect for the flag to districts within the state.

DW/mc