

**Fiscal Impact**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature

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| <b>Bill No.:</b> | <b>SB 1647</b>    |
| <b>Version:</b>  | <b>CS</b>         |
| <b>Author:</b>   | <b>Sen. Treat</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>     | <b>02/15/2022</b> |

**Fiscal Analysis**

SB 1647 creates the Oklahoma Empowerment Act under which eligible students approved to participate in the Oklahoma Empowerment Account Program (Empowerment students) will receive state aid to access educational services. Funds are required to be used for qualified expense, as defined in the bill.

The measure requires the State Department of Education (OSDE) to calculate the amount of state aid for which the student is eligible and transfer the funds on a monthly basis to the Office of the State Treasurer, the agency that will administer the Oklahoma Empowerment Account Program. Amount per student is equivalent to the total state aid factor and the grade weight generated by the student for the applicable school year. OSDE is unable to determine the number of students that will apply and be approved for the program so the projected cost is calculated per student. Estimated cost (scholarship amount per student) is calculated as a range and based on FY 22 initial state aid factor multiplied by category weights (special education, economically disadvantaged, bilingual and gifted) and grade level weight.

Overall Fiscal Impact: State Aid Factor - \$3,517.12. Grade level weight range: 1-1.5; Special Education weight range: .4 - 2.5; Economically disadvantaged .25; Bilingual : .25; Gifted and Talented: .34 Total weights for low end of the range: 2.24 Total weights for high end of the range: 4.84 Projected cost per student using grade weights only : \$3,517.12 - \$5,276 Projected cost per student using grade weights and categorical weights: \$7,878.35 - \$17,022.86 Additionally, OSDE may incur a cost of approximately \$30,000 annually for a .5 FTE to implement this provision including processing of applications and payments.

**FY'23 Impact:** \$3,5712.12-\$5,276.00 per student

**Full Year Impact:** \$3,5712.12-\$5,276.00 per student

Prepared by: Senate Fiscal Staff