

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1463-01
Bill No.: HB 687
Subject: Religion; Education, Higher
Type: Original
Date: April 15, 2015

Bill Summary: This proposal specifies that any benefits afforded to students enrolled at an institution of higher education shall be afforded to students enrolled at a theological or divinity school.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
General Revenue	(\$648,000)	(\$648,000)	(\$648,000)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$648,000)	(\$648,000)	(\$648,000)

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any Of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Department of Higher Education** assume the vast majority of students who pursue a degree in theology or divinity are enrolled in independent postsecondary institutions. In FY14, there were 94,760 students enrolled at independent postsecondary institutions. Of those students, 1,310 received Bright Flight – a rate of about 1% - and 14,837 received Access Missouri – a rate of about 16%.

In FY13, there were 2,400 students pursuing a degree in theology or divinity. Assuming all of them were Missouri residents and the one percent Bright Flight rate applied to them, there would be approximately 24 students who would now be eligible to receive Bright Flight payments. The maximum award they could receive would be \$3,000 for a total cost of \$72,000.

Assuming again that all 2,400 students are Missouri residents and the 16 percent Access Missouri rate applied to them, there would be approximately 384 students who would now be eligible to receive Access Missouri payments. The maximum award those students could receive would be \$1,500 for a total cost of \$576,000.

Taken together, the impact of this legislation would be about \$648,000 each year.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
GENERAL REVENUE			
<u>Costs - Dept. of Higher Education - theological or divinity school students receiving Bright Flight & Access MO</u>	<u>(\$648,000)</u>	<u>(\$648,000)</u>	<u>(\$648,000)</u>
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE	<u>(\$648,000)</u>	<u>(\$648,000)</u>	<u>(\$648,000)</u>
 <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	 FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	 FY 2017	 FY 2018
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

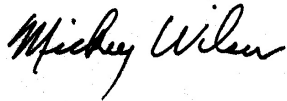
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Currently, an applicant that is enrolled or intends to use an award under the Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program to enroll in a course of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity is not eligible for financial assistance under the program. This bill repeals that prohibition.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Higher Education



Mickey Wilson, CPA
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April 15, 2015

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April 15, 2015