



March 11, 2024

Honorable Clint Dixon
Chairman, Senate Education and Youth
301-B Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
Senate Bill 530 (LC 49 1815)

Dear Chairman Dixon:

The bill would remove one requirement in the Quality Basic Education Act regarding the minimum salary schedule requirements for certificated professional personnel (formerly referred to as “teachers”), effective July 1, 2025. Educators with a leadership degree will no longer be required to serve in a leadership position to be placed on the salary schedule relative to their leadership degree.

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) estimates that 1,000 educators currently have leadership degrees that are not used for state pay. Based on the current salary schedule, the total cost of state pay increases for these individuals would be \$7.8 million in FY 2026.

GaPSC noted that the cost of this change would increase in future years as additional educators are incentivized to earn leadership degrees. Table 1 shows the projected fiscal impact through FY 2030, using historical data to estimate the annual number of new leadership certificates earned as part of a degree program.

Table 1: Estimated Number and Cost of Additional Leadership Degrees

	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
Additional Leadership Degrees	1,028	1,067	1,144	1,279	1,522
Annual Cost Increase	\$7,790,373	\$298,884	\$580,186	\$1,019,720	\$1,846,046
Cumulative Total Cost	\$7,790,373	\$8,089,256	\$8,669,442	\$9,689,163	\$11,535,208

GaPSC estimates that costs will continue to escalate each year as additional educators earn leadership degrees faster than they move to leadership positions or leave the school system. By FY 2035, the annual cost increase is estimated to grow by \$6.9 million and the total cost of the bill would be \$37.8 million.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Greg S. Griffin in blue ink.

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Handwritten signature of Richard Dunn in blue ink.

Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/ja