



DOAA

Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

January 24, 2025

Honorable Sandra Scott
State Representative
611-D Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill (LC 61 0028)

Dear Representative Scott:

This bill would amend the Quality Basic Education Act by enabling the State Board of Education to provide additional grants to local units of administration to support students living in poverty, as defined by the bill. The grant would equal 25% of the base QBE (Quality Basic Education) funding weight multiplied by the number of students living in poverty. The State Board of Education would establish school system eligibility for the grant. The bill has no effective date.

Data from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) indicates that the bill would have resulted in additional QBE earnings of approximately \$731 million in FY2025 (see **Table 1**). The amount is based on the FY24 number of students identified through the Title 1 Census. The FY 2025 base QBE weight is used. The amount assumes that every school system is eligible for the grant.

Table 1: Total Projected Grant Amount for One Year

Base QBE Weight	\$3,191.67
25% of Base QBE Weight	\$797.9175
2024 Georgia K12 Student Poverty Count	916,536
Total Grant Amount	\$731,320,114
Note: Changes in QBE earnings are borne by the state and local school systems, with the ratio dependent on Local Five Mill Share calculations made each year. Currently, the state share is 80% but could increase in future years based on changes in local property tax digests.	

Additionally, the cap on the Promise Scholarship program at Georgia Student Finance Commission is set at 1% of QBE earnings and would increase as a result of this bill.

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/ew