



FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 272

Committee: Education Policy

Sponsor: Representative Terri Collins

Analyst: John Friedenreich

Date: 04/10/2025

House Bill 272 as reported by the Committee on Education Policy would increase the obligations of the existing Alabama Math and Science Teacher Education Program (AMSTEP), renamed the "Loan Assistance in Support of Educators in Alabama (LASEA) Program" by this bill, by an undetermined amount dependent on the number of individuals that receive loan assistance through the program based on the acute educator shortages in the state, as provided by this bill, that otherwise would not have received assistance under current law. This bill would further increase the obligations of the program by an additional \$500 per year for each educator that receives a supplemental award for employment in an acute educator shortage location by increasing that award amount from \$2,500 per year, under current law, to \$3,000 per year under this bill.

Additionally, this bill would increase the administrative obligations of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education and the Alabama Commission on Evaluation of Services to develop an accountability and evaluation plan for the program, pursuant to the provisions of this bill. As of fiscal year 2025, AMSTEP has a cash balance of approximately \$2.5 million. For fiscal year 2026, the governor recommended an appropriation of \$746,750 from the Education Trust Fund.