



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: HB0338.01: Revise laws regarding targeted early numeracy intervention

Primary Sponsor: Melissa Romano Status: As Introduced

Included in the Executive Budget Needs to be included in HB 2 Significant Local Gov Impact

Significant Long-Term Impacts Technical Concerns Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
Expenditures				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenues				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Description of fiscal impact

Office of Public Instruction

HB 338 revises laws related to early literacy targeted interventions to include numeracy and allow greater flexibility in evaluating children for eligibility along with revising reporting requirements. It is assumed there will be insignificant increase to state funding in association with HB 338.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions


Office of Public Instruction

1. HB 338 broadens the meaning of early interventions to include both early literacy and numeracy.
2. The bill removes the limitation requirement to administer evaluations during the months of April, May, and June for student candidates to early intervention programs, allowing for evaluation to occur any time of the year.
3. According to source data from the National Center for Education Statistics Grade 4, Math: Percent of students at or above proficient - Report Card Montana's grade 4 math proficiency rates are 38% in 2022, the most recent year of available data.
4. In FY 2025, on average, a class grade size for Montana elementary programs are approximately 11,400 students. According to the OPI GEMS warehouse 2025 data approximately 8,500 students are homeschooled. It is estimated that an elementary grade size is 700. Applying the 38% proficiency base, this equates to approximately 7,068 school students eligible and 434 homeschooled students eligible for the early literacy targeted interventions program. The early literacy programs are both voluntary and permissive if necessary for testing of students.

- 5. HB 338 revises language from HB 352 passed in the 2023 legislative session that created the Early Literacy Program. During the inaugural year, FY 2025, of the Early Literacy Program, there were 1,919 students enrolled in the classroom-based portion of the program and 1,203 students enrolled in the summer jumpstart portion of the program. The 1,919 students constitute approximately 17% of an average Montana class grade. It is assumed that increases to this program will not change significantly related to changes in HB 338. Therefore, no fiscal impact is estimated.



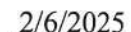
Sponsor's Initials



Date



Budget Director's Initials



Date