

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS26179

This legislation authorizes the Superintendent of Public Instruction to fund the establishment of one (1) Rural Education Support Network in FY 2019. The Network is a small, nimble coordinating body, providing member school districts and charter schools with dedicated staff and funding for the purposes of collaboration, resource sharing, and the pursuit of new resources through grants or philanthropic opportunities. A local school district or charter school must enter into an MOU with the Network, which is an opt-in entity, but no member district or charter school is compelled to participate in a manner that the local school board or superintendent does not deem appropriate. The State Department of Education would provide a model MOU to which Networks could attach addenda to meet their specific needs, but otherwise is not involved in the Network's coordination or decision-making. The superintendent may provide funding to the Network for up to three years, but the Network must become self-sustaining using the revenue saved through resource sharing and efficient coordination among the members.

FISCAL NOTE

The fiscal impact of this legislation in FY 2019 is \$300,000 from the state department of education budget and reflects the request of the superintendent of public instruction's FY19 department of education budget request. A Network is funded up to \$300,000 for up to three (3) years, for a maximum cost per Network of \$900,000 over three years from the department of education's budget.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).