

SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COUNCIL

2025 South Dakota Legislature

FISCAL NOTE 2025-FN51A

SB51, An Act to require the display and curricular inclusion of the Ten Commandments and other documents.

SB51 requires school districts to display the Ten Commandments in each classroom in each school district in the State. The bill requires the poster to be 8 x 14 inches with a font large enough to easily read. The bill requires the Department of Education (DOE) and school districts to develop and implement a history and civics curriculum. The bill also allows school districts to display other foundational documents of the United States.

The fiscal impact to the school districts pertaining to SB51 regarding the cost of the poster is minimal. The cost for developing or implementing a curriculum for the DOE and school districts would have an opportunity cost (staff spending time developing curriculum for SB51 instead of another curriculum).

The cost to each school district will depend on the number of classrooms multiplied by the cost to print the poster on an 8 x 14 poster, which is commonly considered legal size paper. The cost to print the poster will vary by school district depending on the ability of the school district to self-print the posters or contract to have the posters printed. The cost to print and display the posters for each school district will be minimal, with a cost per poster ranging from \$0.03 to \$4.00 depending on the material and paper used to print the poster.

There is an opportunity cost, with staff spending time developing curriculum for SB51 instead of another curriculum, to the DOE and school districts. The cost to buy curriculum, if necessary, will depend on what each school district already has and does as part of their current operations. Purchasing new curriculum components depends on the needs of the school district.

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