



Department of Audits and Accounts

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December 19, 2014

Honorable Steve Henson
State Senator
121-B State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
Senate Bill (LC 41 0284)

Dear Senator Henson:

This bill requires the Technical College System of Georgia to establish policies for granting academic credit to students for college level learning acquired prior to their enrollment. This prior learning could come from military service, work experience, service in the community, or from independent study.

The bill's total fiscal impact would be approximately \$241,500 for fiscal year 2016. According to the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG), this cost includes \$115,000 for one additional staff person (salary and fringe) to manage the program; \$101,500 for a Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) contract to determine how various military and occupational experiences apply to TCSG programs and to train staff; and \$25,000 for the updates that would be required to TCSG's computer databases and website.

The \$115,000 cost of the additional staff person would be an on-going cost. The PLA contract and computer update costs would be one-time costs. However, additional costs could be incurred if the program expands beyond the program areas covered by the initial PLA.

Additionally, it should be noted that the TCSG might lose some tuition revenue from students who are awarded academic credits through this program. However, TCSG believes the loss would be minor and could be offset by an increase in enrollment due to the availability of the program.

Sincerely,

s/Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

s/Teresa A. MacCartney, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/TAM/lso/cb