

Legislative Analysis



NUCLEAR AND HYDROGEN EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 5608 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Mike McFall

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

House Bill 5609 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Samantha Steckloff

Committee: Energy, Communications, and Technology
Complete to 12-3-24

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5608 would create a new act, the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program Act, to create a program for awarding grants to certain postsecondary schools in Michigan that establish or expand educational programs that lead to degrees or credentials supportive of the nuclear and hydrogen industries.

The bill would create the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program in the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO). The bill would require LEO to administer the program for the purpose of awarding grants from the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program Fund (proposed by House Bill 5609) on a competitive basis to any degree- or certificate-granting public or private college or university, junior college, community college, or vocational or technical school in Michigan that seeks to establish or expand a qualified education program.

LEO would have to develop and issue rules and establish policies and procedures necessary for the administration of the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program, including those addressing program applications and grant awards.

The bill could take effect only if House Bills 5606 and 5609 were also enacted.

House Bill 5609 would create a new act, the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program Fund Act, to create the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program Fund in the state treasury. The state treasurer would have to deposit money and other assets received from any source into the fund. The state treasurer would have to direct the investment of money in the fund and credit to the fund interest and earnings from those investments. Money in the fund at the close of the fiscal year would remain in the fund and would not lapse to the general fund. LEO would be the administrator of the fund for auditing purposes.

LEO would have to expend money from the fund, upon appropriation, only for awarding grants under the program proposed by House Bill 5608.

The bill could take effect only if House Bills 5606 and 5608 were also enacted.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5608 would likely result in increased costs for LEO. Under the bill, LEO would be responsible for administering the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program. LEO's responsibilities under the bill would include establishing policies and procedures and promulgating administrative rules, though the department would likely incur ongoing costs for the continued administration of the program. The magnitude of these costs is currently indeterminate.

House Bill 5609 would create a state restricted fund, the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program Fund, which would be administered by LEO. Expenditures could be made from the fund, upon appropriation, only to award grants under the Nuclear and Hydrogen Education Grant Program created under HB 5608. The bill is silent with respect to a revenue source for the fund.

Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille
Fiscal Analyst: Marcus Coffin

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.