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Council of the Great City Schools

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Ohio's Proposed Repeal of the Common Core Would Cost Taxpayers Billions of Dollars, Says a Council of the Great City Schools Analysis

WASHINGTON, DC, Aug.29 – A recent review by the Council of the Great City Schools' of the cost implications for Ohio House Bill 597, which proposes to move away from Common Core State Standards, is estimated to cost Ohio taxpayers more than \$2.4 billion dollars.

The Bill proposes to transition from the Common Core State Standards adopted by Ohio in 2010 and replace the standards with the old Massachusetts standards for a two-year period while new Ohio standards are developed.

Ohio teachers and educators have spent the past four years implementing the Common Core curriculum. The professional development costs to change the standards in Ohio would extend more than eight years. In addition to the estimated \$1.2 billion already invested in Common Core training since 2010, future costs would potentially include training staff on the interim Massachusetts standards (two years) and the cost of training teachers and staff on the new Ohio standards (two years minimum).

Given what has already been spent on the Common Core and the future costs of implementing two new sets of standards, taxpayers stand to invest nearly \$3 billion in teacher training on standards. The total cost estimate is based on studies¹ that have reported teacher professional development expenditures that range between \$2,970 and \$10,100 per teacher per year. In the calculations, the lowest estimates of professional development costs per teacher were used for each of Ohio's approximately 100,156 full-time teachers. The total annual cost of professional development for the state is estimated at approximately \$300 million.

The cost estimates do not include training costs for other district administrators and staff (i.e., principals, central office administrators, etc.) or estimates for developing the new standards and materials teachers and schools will need. The Bill is currently being considered in the House Rules and Reference Committee.

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¹ Odden, A., Archibald, S., Fermanich, M., & Gallagher, A. (2002). A cost framework for professional development. *Journal of Education Finance*, 28(1), 51-74. Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40704157>