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## SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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### **AB 560 (Addis) - Special education: resource specialists: special classes**

**Version:** June 30, 2025

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** August 29, 2025

**Policy Vote:** ED. 7 - 0

**Mandate:** Yes

**Consultant:** Lenin Del Castillo

**Bill Summary:** This bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), on or before July 1, 2027, to establish a maximum recommended adult-to-pupil staffing ratio for special classes serving students with disabilities ages 3 to 22. This bill also requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to take all reasonable steps to equitably distribute the workload associated with initial special education assessments among all resource specialists, unless otherwise collectively bargained.

### **\*\*\*\*\* ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE \*\*\*\*\***

**The following information is revised to reflect amendments  
adopted by the committee on August 29, 2025**

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

- The California Department of Education (CDE) estimates General Fund costs of \$546,000 for 3.0 positions to investigate the anticipated increase in complaints to the department, and additional one-time General Fund costs of \$350,000 to convene the workgroup to make recommendations. The estimate for the workgroup is based on previous efforts undertaken by CDE, including the workgroup established by the 2020 Budget Act to examine and propose alternate pathways to a high school diploma and the IEP Workgroup, also established by the 2020 Budget Act, which was tasked with designing a statewide IEP template.
- To the extent that the workgroup recommends staffing ratios for special classes that result in smaller class sizes for LEAs, this bill could result in additional, unknown Proposition 98 General Fund costs pressures for those LEAs to implement smaller class sizes. The associated costs would vary by LEA as they would depend on several factors, such as their existing staffing levels and availability of classrooms and infrastructure needs. It is unclear if these activities would constitute a reimbursable mandate.

**Author Amendments:** Require the SPI to recommend, rather than establish, the maximum adult-to-pupil staffing ratio for special education classes, as specified.

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