Adult Education Programs, Rule 0520-01-02-.06

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-6-409 provides the department with the authority to develop alternative methods for adult students to meet the requirements for course credit on a minimum number of contact hours. Currently, the Adult High School Rule provides that adult high schools' Full-Time Enrollment Average Daily Membership funding be based on a 4-hour school day rather than a 6.5 hour school day required for traditional K-12 schools.

This item proposes to update the funding calculation for adult education programs that lead to a regular high school diploma so that the Full-Time Enrollment Average Daily Membership status is based on a 4-hour school day. Including adult education programs will ensure adult education programs have the resources necessary to serve students as they work toward a regular high school diploma.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item would generate additional BEP funding for adult education programs that lead to a regular high school diploma.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.