Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Numbe	r SB98ESI
	House of Orig	gin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
	Second House	e In Committee Substitute Enrolled
2.	Patron	Devolites
3.	Committee	House Education
4.	Title	Parenting programs; Department of Correctional Education

- **5. Summary/Purpose:** This legislation proposes to amend by adding in Chapter 18 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-345.1, requiring the Department of Correctional Education (DCE) to arrange for non-custodial parent offenders committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections (DOC) to be afforded the opportunity to participate in pre- and post-release parenting programs that include parenting-skills training and anger management.
- **6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** Preliminary. See item #8.
- 7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes. Item 409.
- **8. Fiscal implications:** The Department of Correctional Education (DCE) advises that it currently provides programs for anger management though there are waiting lists for the programs due to limitations in space and funding. The agency estimates there could be significant costs associated with the proposed legislation if parenting classes are implemented in all 42 secure facilities and 23 community corrections related facilities. DCE also advises that it could institute this program in a prioritized order in institutions and centers according to greatest annual release rates based on information obtained by the Department of Corrections, which could reduce costs. DCE estimates that by using wage employees to augment existing staff, no additional positions would be needed. However, if the program were to be implemented as specified in all sixty-five sites, the maximum annual cost could be as high as \$1,438,992.

The legislation was amended in the nature of a substitute to include language that directs that "the provisions of this act shall not become effective unless an appropriation of general funds effectuating the purposes of this act is included in the general appropriation act for the period July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2006, passed during the 2004 Session of the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor."

- **9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Correctional Education and Department of Corrections.
- 10. Technical amendment necessary: No.
- **11. Other comments:** This bill is similar to HB792.

Date: 02/20/04 / MEM

Document: G:\Fis\04\Dce\Sb98es1.Doc Michael McMahon

cc: Secretary of Public Safety