

Department of Housing and Community Development

Commission on Local Government

**Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact
2005 General Assembly Session**

Bill: HB 2299

Patron: Fralin

Date: January 19, 2005

In accordance with the provisions of §§ 30–19.03 through 30–19.03:1.1 of the Code of Virginia, the staff of the Commission on Local Government offers the following analysis of the above-referenced bill:

I. Bill Summary

HB 2299 directs local school boards to ensure that each high school in the division be equipped with an automated external defibrillator (AED). In addition, the measure requires that school personnel have certification or training in the operation of an automated external defibrillator at specific staffing levels.

II. Fiscal Impact Analysis

The Commission on Local Government did not receive estimates from any locality regarding the fiscal impact of HB 2299 on their school divisions. The effect of this bill, however, is to impose additional costs on all local school divisions within the Commonwealth.

The American Heart Association, the National Association of School Nurses, and several other medical and scientific organizations have taken the position that the medical emergency response plan of any school should include the implementation of a lay rescuer AED program. Such a lay rescuer AED program is recommended to include: i) two primary staff and two alternates trained in the use of AED and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), ii) medical/healthcare provider oversight, iii) coordination with local EMS (Emergency Rescue Services), iv) appropriate AED maintenance, and v) an ongoing quality improvement program to monitor training and evaluate response with each use of the AED. It is also suggested that large school buildings may require more than one AED.

The estimated first-year cost per school of a lay rescuer AED program is \$8,000 to \$8,500 which includes the cost of the AED and associated equipment and the cost of training and training materials. The cost per year thereafter is estimated at approximately \$3,000 (costs are amortized and depreciated at an annual rate of 3% over their anticipated lifespan).

III. Conclusion

HB 2299 is expected to impose net additional expenditures for local school divisions throughout the Commonwealth, although that cost is not expected to be significant. According to the Department of Education there are 293 high schools in Virginia.