

## Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB652H1

House of Origin     Introduced     Substitute     Engrossed  
Second House       In Committee     Substitute     Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Northam

3. **Committee:** Education

4. **Title:**            **Concussions; Board of Education to develop guidelines dealing with in student-athletes**

5. **Summary:** Requires the Board of Education (BOE) to develop and distribute to local school divisions guidelines for policies dealing with concussions in student-athletes and requires each local school division to develop policies and procedures regarding the identification and handling of suspected concussions in student-athletes. The policies of the BOE shall become effective on July 1, 2011.

6. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8.

7. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** This legislation requires the BOE to work with a number of stakeholders in Virginia to develop and distribute guidelines for school divisions to inform parents, coaches, and student-athletes about the risks of concussions.

In addition, school divisions would be required to provide student-athletes with information on an annual basis regarding concussions and the student-athlete's parent or guardian would be required to sign a statement acknowledging receipt of such information.

Moreover, any student-athlete suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game would be removed from competition immediately following the incident. A student-athlete who has been removed from play, evaluated, and suspected to have a concussion or brain injury shall not return to play that same day nor until (i) evaluated by an appropriate licensed health care provider as determined by the Board of Education and (ii) in receipt of written clearance to return to play from such licensed health care provider.

It is anticipated that any administrative costs associated with the development of guidelines regarding the risks of concussions can be absorbed within current resources. Furthermore, the distribution of information on an annual basis regarding concussions could result in some additional costs for local school divisions. Costs will vary by school division depending on the medium used to disseminate the information. It is anticipated the state would not provide additional funding to address such costs; as such the bill is not expected to have a state fiscal impact.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Board of Education and local school divisions.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 3/10/2010 dpbsbj

**Document:** G:\Legislation\2010\Posted\SB652H1.doc