

Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB325-ER

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Massie

3. Committee: Passed both houses

4. Title: Board of Education; teacher licensure; paraprofessional training.

5. Summary: Requires that by September 1, 2014, each school board must ensure that aides assigned to work with a teacher who has primary oversight of students with autism spectrum disorder receive training in student behavior management within 60 days of assignment to such responsibility. School boards may also provide such training to other employees, including transportation employees. The Board of Education must provide training standards that school divisions may use to fulfill the training requirement.

An enactment clause was also added to this bill that requires the Board of Education, in consultation with Virginia Commonwealth University, to develop online training that school divisions may use to fulfill the requirements of this legislation. Such training must be made available to local school divisions free of charge.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation requires school divisions to ensure that every aide subject to the provisions of this bill would receive training in student behavior management. Further, school divisions would have the option of providing similar training to other employees. In order to provide this training, the Board of Education would be required to develop an online training curriculum that school divisions may use free of charge to satisfy the requirements of this bill.

The development of this training is expected to have a fiscal impact on the Department of Education, which could be covered by reallocating a portion of funding from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). It is estimated that it will cost \$280,000 for the Virginia Commonwealth University Autism Center for Excellence to initially develop the training for the Department of Education. The Department also anticipates ongoing expenses to support the course, including information technology infrastructure maintenance, part-time instructors to conduct the interactive training on-line, and other related ancillary

costs. It is assumed that any recurring expenses related to this training would also be covered by federal IDEA funds.

It is assumed that any administrative costs for the Board of Education related to the development of standards for school divisions to use to fulfill the training requirement would be absorbed within current resources.

The Department of Education estimates that there are approximately 4,000 teacher aides statewide that would be required to receive training as a result of this legislation. While there would be no local fiscal impact to access the online training being developed by the Department, schools divisions may still incur local costs if aides must be compensated for the time they spend taking the online training beyond their existing contract; however, this would vary across divisions so it is not possible to reliably estimate the potential local impact at this time.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Board of Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, and local school divisions.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 3/13/2012

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