

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

Bill Number: HB659

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

2. Patron: Bell

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: Community services boards and behavioral health authorities; information for secondary school students about available services

5. Summary: This bill adds new sections (22.1-217.2, 37.2-513, 37.2-616)

The substitute bill adds a requirement that school division designee(s) receive training about the types of services provided by local community services board (CSB) or behavioral health authority (BHA) that are available to students with intellectual disability or emotional disturbance who require special education and related services and are expected to graduate with a special diploma or certificate program completion, upon such student's graduation from, aging out of, or otherwise leaving public education.

The school division designee(s) shall take all reasonable steps to meet with every student who meets the definition above and his parents, and who has not yet met with a representative of the CSB or BHA at least one time during the year prior to the students graduation, aging out or leaving public education to present information on:

- The types of services available from CSBs or BHAs available upon graduation, aging out or otherwise leaving public education
- The process by which the student may begin receiving services

Representatives from CSBs or BHAs shall participate in the meeting if the students parents, or the student if he is 18 years of age or older, consent to such participation.

The new language adds that CSBs and BHAs shall provide training and information about the types of service available to students who meet the definition stated above and the process by which such students may connect and begin to receive such services.

Additionally, the bill would require CSBs and BHAs to ensure that at least one employee or representative of the CSB or BHA is available in person to participate in meetings between local school division representatives and students who meet the definition above and their parents, where appropriate in accordance with §22.1-217.2.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes. Item 308.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8. below.

8. Fiscal Implications: The substitute version of HB659 requires that CSBs have staff available for meetings with students and their parents upon the students graduation or aging out of public education. The point of these meetings is to inform the students and their parents about the potential services which the student may benefit from. As a result the bill will require additional staff for CSBs to accommodate the expected demand.

Data obtained from the Department of Education by disability type state that there were 9,414 students with a diagnosis of Emotional Disturbance, 9,424 with a diagnosis of Intellectual Disability and 14,624 with a diagnosis of Autism in school during the 2012-2013 school year. While only a portion of these individuals would be graduating in any given year, the aggregate statistic for individuals with Emotional Disturbance is close to that for individuals with Intellectual Disability and would therefore require a similar level of funding and staffing.

CSBs estimate that if they meet with all of the graduating students, they will need, on average, half of an FTE per CSB to handle the maximum demand, as the service would be provided on a locality by locality basis. The total statewide caseload could approach 3,000 persons per year, requiring adequate staffing within each CSB to ensure that they can handle their portion of this distribution.

Number of CSBs FTEs Required	Per CSB	Maximum Impact
40	40,000 (part time)	= \$1,600,000

The precise impact of the bill is indeterminate since it is unknown how many parents and students will want CSB representatives at all of these meetings.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: local school divisions, Community Service Boards (CSBs)

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: No.