

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2020 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB1508

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

**2. Patron:** McQuinn

**3. Committee:** Appropriations

**4. Title:** Minimum staffing ratio for school counselors.

**5. Summary:** Changes the effective date from school year 2019-2020 to school year 2020-2021 for the staffing standard that requires local school boards to employ school counselors in accordance with the following ratios, effective with the 2020-2021 school year: in elementary schools, one hour per day per 75 students, one full-time equivalent at 375 students, one hour per day additional time per 75 students or major fraction thereof; in middle schools, one period per 65 students, one full-time equivalent at 325 students, one additional period per 65 students or major fraction thereof; and in high schools, one period per 60 students, one full-time equivalent at 300 students, one additional period per 60 students or major fraction thereof. Effective with the 2021-2022 school year, the bill requires local school boards to employ one full-time equivalent school counselor position per 250 students in grades kindergarten through 12.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See Item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** HB/SB 30, 2020 General Assembly Session, includes \$21.2 million in FY 2021 and \$78.1 million in FY 2022 to support the state share of cost for the additional school counselors required by this bill in school year 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. As such, a budget amendment is not necessary to support this legislation.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Education, local school divisions

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

**11. Other Comments:** None