

Department of Planning and Budget

2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1653

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: Wilt

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: School counselors; data collection.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Education to collect data from school boards regarding their ability to fill school counselor positions, including (i) the number of school counselors employed in elementary, middle, and high schools in the local school division; (ii) the number and duration of school counselor vacancies; (iii) the number, role, and license type of other licensed counseling professionals employed by the school board; and (iv) information about their preferences for meeting updated school counselor to student ratios with other licensed counseling professionals. Requires the Department of Education to report the results of such data collection to the Governor, the Secretary of Education, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations no later than December 1, 2020.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 143.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Education's (DOE) Education Information Management team does not have staff available to perform the work required by this bill. DOE will need additional part-time staff to program the data collections, manage the data, provide technical support to school divisions, and write the report. DOE estimates an additional state cost of \$25,000 in FY 2021 to meet the provisions of this bill.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None