

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB129

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

2. Patron: Norment

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Public schools; firearm safety education program.

5. Summary: Requires local school boards to provide firearm safety education programs for students in all grades. The bill requires (i) the Board of Education to establish curriculum guidelines for the program, in consultation with the Department of Criminal Justice Services; (ii) school boards to offer a minimum of two hours of instruction consistent with such guidelines; and (iii) that the program be taught by a school resource officer, other law-enforcement officer, or a United States Armed Forces instructor. The bill prohibits the use of firearms in the program. Current law allows local school boards to provide a firearm safety education program for students in the elementary grades and does not specify who may instruct such program.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 137.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Education (DOE) used contracted services to develop the elementary firearm safety education program curriculum guidelines and anticipates the need for similar assistance to expand the curriculum guidelines to all grades. DOE estimates a total state cost of \$35,000 in FY 2021 to meet the provisions of this bill. This estimate includes \$30,000 for consultant fees and \$5,000 for two stakeholder meetings to ensure proper development and rollout of the curriculum. The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) does not anticipate a state cost to consult with the Board of Education to establish curriculum guidelines.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Board of Education, Department of Education, Department of Criminal Justice Services, local school divisions, local law enforcement agencies, United States Armed Forces

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None