

**Department of Planning and Budget**  
**2020 Special Session I - Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB5095

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input 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:** Hodges

**3. Committee:** Education

**4. Title:** COVID-19; impact

**5. Summary:** Directs the Department of Health to work with the Department of Education and representatives of the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and other appropriate stakeholders to develop specific criteria for assessing the long-term impact of distance learning on students in the Commonwealth during the COVID-19 public health emergency, including the impact of distance learning on students' health, mental health, social and emotional development, and academic achievement, and provides that any school board that considers such criteria and information in determining whether to offer in-person education shall be immune from civil liability for any civil cause of action arising from any act or omission alleged to have resulted in the contraction of or exposure to COVID-19, absent gross negligence or willful misconduct. The bill requires school boards that opt to allow in-person education to provide distance learning options for students who choose not to return to school for in-person education during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The bill contains an emergency clause.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. No Fiscal Impact.**

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill would not have fiscal impact on the Commonwealth. The Virginia Department of Health and the Department of Education have stated they can accomplish the provisions of the bill within existing resources.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** The Virginia Department of Health, the Department of Education, and local school divisions.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.