

# Commission on Local Government

## Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact

2021 General Assembly Session

**Bill:** SB1191

**Special Session:**

**Patron:** Kiggans

**Date:** 1/22/2021

In accordance with the provisions of §30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia, the staff of the Commission on Local Government offers the following analysis of the above-referenced legislation:

### Bill Summary:

School personnel; school nurses. Excludes school nurse positions from requirements for student support positions and instead requires each local school board to employ at least one full-time equivalent school nurse position in each elementary school, middle school, and high school in the local school division. The bill also requires the Department of Education to establish and administer a waiver process for local school boards for which the requirements of the bill create an undue hardship.

### Executive Summary:

Localities have evaluated a negative fiscal impact ranging from \$0.00 - \$11,400,000.00. Most of the localities responded with no cost because they already meet the standards proposed by the bill or they are towns, and not responsible for schools. Only one locality responded with a cost, noted that the bill would require them to hire additional nurses to comply with the provisions of the bill. Please note that the estimated cost provided by this locality is justifiable because the locality has the largest school system with greatest number of students enrolled in the state. Their school's health is a blended model that utilizes a combination of a Public Health Nurse (PHN), who is licensed as Registered Nurse and trained paraprofessional School Health Aids (SHA). The SHA is assigned to school health room and the PHN is assigned to two to five schools..

### Local Analysis:

**Locality:** City of Harrisonburg

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

No fiscal impact as the School Board already employ full-time nurses at all schools.

**Locality:** City of Manassas

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

The City of Manassas currently has a school nurse in every school facility and is in compliance with this proposed legislation. There is no anticipated fiscal impact.

**Locality:** City of Norfolk

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

The City of Norfolk has a Revenue Sharing Agreement with the Norfolk Public Schools. Also NPS has a full time nurse in every elementary, middle and high school.

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**Locality:** City of Roanoke

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

No budgetary impact on Roanoke City Public Schools (RCPS). RCPS already has a full time registered nurse at each elementary, middle and high school, so we are already meeting this requirement.

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**Locality:** Fairfax County

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$11,400,000.00

The fiscal impact of SB 1191, which includes a proposed staffing ratio of at least one FTE nurse position in each elementary school, middle school, and high school is estimated to be \$11.4 million to fund the additional nurse positions to achieve 1 per school.

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**Locality:** Pulaski County

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

Pulaski County already employs 1 FTE school nurse at each of our schools so there would be no added fiscal impact for this particular legislation at this time.

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**Locality:** Town of Marion.

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

Function of county, not town

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**Locality:** Wise County

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

Wise County already has nurses in each school.

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## **Professional and Other Organization**

### **Analysis:**

**Organization:** Northern Neck PDC

The fiscal burden on local government of a mandatory hiring of a nurse finds reprieve in the waiver, but depending on the difficulty/burden of proof of obtaining a waiver, this bill has the capacity to impact local school systems. Nurses are in short supply currently in rural areas, the salary to attract a nurse to a rural locality would burden small rural localities, unless a waiver could be easily obtained.

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