

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1043

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: McPike

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Public education; student mental health and counseling; definitions; licensure requirements.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, to develop, adopt, and distribute to each school board a model memorandum of understanding between a school board and a public or private community mental health services provider that sets forth parameters for the provision of mental health services to public school students enrolled in the local school division by such provider. The bill requires the memorandum of understanding to be available to each school board no later than the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year. The bill also permits, in order to fill vacant school psychologist positions, any local school board to employ, under a provisional license issued by the Department of Education for three school years with an allowance for an additional two-year extension, clinical psychologists licensed by the Board of Psychology, provided that any such individual makes progress toward completing the requirements for full licensure as a school psychologist during such period of employment. Finally, the bill defines the terms "direct counseling" and "program planning and school support" for the purpose of the provision of law that requires each school counselor to spend at least 80 percent of his staff time during normal school hours in the direct counseling of individual students or groups of students.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services estimates that a part-time position would be needed to assist the Department of Education in developing parameters for the memorandum of understanding as they do not currently have anyone on staff who is dedicated to these duties. The cost of the part-time employee and associated travel, equipment, and other support costs is \$50,730. It is unclear if this would be a temporary position or if there would be a need for ongoing consultation with DOE. If this is a one-time expense, it can likely be absorbed in existing resources, however if there are

ongoing duties, additional funding would be needed. The Department of Education can absorb any costs associated with the work required by this bill.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Education, Department of Behavior Health and Developmental Services, local school divisions

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None