

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1075

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

2. Patron: Coyner

3. Committee: Passed both houses

4. Title: Board of Education; Imagination Library of Virginia Program and Fund established.

5. Summary: Establishes the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Virginia Program (the Program) for the purpose of promoting a comprehensive statewide initiative for encouraging preschool-age children to develop a love of reading and learning by providing one reading selection, defined by the bill as any high-quality, age-appropriate book, monthly to the home of each registered child from birth to age five in each participating county through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library at no cost to the child's family, subject to appropriation. The program shall contribute to local programs a 50 percent match of funds, if available, required of such local programs participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. This bill establishes that a Program administrator, a nonprofit entity dedicated to statewide literacy advocacy chosen by the Department of Education, shall be responsible for administration of the Program, and the Department of Education shall serve as the state Program sponsor and oversee its development, implementation, and administration. The bill requires that the Program administrator shall (i) determine the amount of funds need for each school year; (ii) establish a non-profit entity solely to promote a love of reading and learning in children in the Commonwealth through the implementation of the Program; and (iii) provide oversight over the nonprofit entity in carry out certain duties, including; (a) managing the daily operations; (b) advancing, strengthening, and promoting the statewide development of local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library programs with the goal of increasing enrollment; (c) developing community engagement initiatives; (d) developing, promoting, and coordinating a public awareness program to make donors aware of the opportunity to donate to the Program and increase public awareness of the opportunity to register eligible children to receive reading selections at no cost on a monthly basis; (e) developing statewide marketing and communication plans; (f) executing a data sharing agreement with the Dollywood Foundation; (g) soliciting donations, gifts, and other funding to financially support local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library programs; (h) administering the local match requirement and coordinating the collection and remittance of local Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program costs for books and postage; and (i) providing an annual report to the Senate Committee on Education and Health and the House Committee on Education detailing the activities of the Program. The provisions of the act shall expire on January 1, 2029.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 117 and potentially Item 124.
7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final, see item 8.
8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Education (DOE) estimates that additional staff time would be required at an additional cost of \$55,000 general fund per year to support the oversight of the Program.

The bill directs that the Program shall contribute to local programs a 50 percent match of funds, if available, required of local programs participating in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. At this time, it is not possible to estimate what this cost may be. Any actual cost is dependent on the amount of funding appropriated by the General Assembly to support the Program. The Governor's introduced budget, HB/SB 30, 2024 General Assembly Session, appropriates \$1,157,065 per year to support the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library for Kids program in Item 124. If the intent is for that appropriation to support this Program, a budget language amendment in Item 124 may be required to direct these funds to the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Virginia Program.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Education, localities

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. **Other Comments:** The language is not clear regarding the responsibility for administration and oversight of the program between the Program administrator, a nonprofit entity, and the state Program sponsor, the Department of Education (DOE). Lines 33-34 direct that the Program administrator shall administer the program and that DOE shall oversee this administration. However, lines 40-41 direct that the Program administrator shall provide oversight over the administration of the program.

In line 26, the bill references "each participating county." It is unclear if this would exclude cities and towns from participating in the Program.