

Commission on Local Government

Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact

2016 General Assembly Session

Bill: HB 842

Patron: Cline

Date: 2/16/2016

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:

Teacher preparation and licensure; dyslexia. Requires Board of Education regulations governing teacher licensure to require every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license to receive professional development in the indicators of dyslexia and the scientific methods of teaching a student who is dyslexic. The bill requires the Department of Education to collaborate with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to ensure that all teacher preparation programs offered at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth convey information on the identification of students at risk for dyslexia and related disorders.

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**Executive Summary:**

As per the provisions of HB 842, initial license or renewal of a license to teach would require professional development in the indicators of dyslexia and the scientific methods of teaching a dyslexic student. The bill would also require DOE and SCHEV to ensure that all teacher preparation programs offered at public institutions of higher education convey information on the identification of students at risk for dyslexia and related disorders.

Localities have evaluated a negative fiscal impact of \$1 - \$137,500. The provisions of the bill would impact all localities in some way. Localities noted that the cost would be related to recertification and training for professional development specific to dyslexia. Some localities also noted that there could be increased cost for the employee in addition to the school system and that cost could vary based on whether teachers would be required to be taught individually or as a group.

Additionally, some localities noted that the estimation of the cost is difficult without understanding DOE's role in providing the training to those seeking renewing a license.

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**Local Analysis:**

**Locality:** Chesapeake Public Schools

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$50,000.00

Difficult to estimate the cost without understanding exactly what the VDOE comes up with as a means of providing the training to those renewing the license.

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Locality: City of Lynchburg

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$1,560.00

Our SPED provided the follow response to the questions.

If the bill results in law that requires the Department of Education to collaborate with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to ensure that all teacher preparation programs offered at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth convey information on the identification of students at risk for dyslexia and related disorders, there should be no financial implications for LCS.

If the bill results in law requiring every person seeking initial licensure or renewal of a license to receive professional development in the indicators of dyslexia and the scientific methods of teaching a student who is dyslexic, LCS could encounter the following expenditures: \$1560.00 per 100 teachers

Explanation: If the professional development in the indicators of dyslexia and the scientific methods of teaching a student who is dyslexic can be covered in a 3 hour session, and we estimate 20 teachers working through recertification per 100 teachers annually, the 3 hour training at 26.00 per 100 teachers annually would cost: \$1560.00.

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**Locality:** City of Norfolk

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$1.00

The cost of the bill as proposed is preliminary at this time. Currently, there is no specific professional development related to dyslexia at Norfolk Public Schools (NPS). If the bill was approved, NPS will incur the costs to send its special education learning support staff to professional development specific to dyslexia. Additional costs would be incurred as a result of the subsequent training of NPS teachers by the learning support staff, or the costs will be passed on to the individual teacher.

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Locality: City of Winchester

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$25,000.00

There would be an increased cost bourne by the employee and the schools system.

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**Locality:** Frederick County Public Schools

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$137,500.00

An introductory course costs @ \$125. For our 1100 teachers, the cost would be \$137,500. If there is a performance level set, then additional costs would apply.

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Locality: Henrico County

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$1.00

This requirement is already met by Henrico County Public Schools.

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**Locality:** Rockingham County

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$2,000.00

The costs could run anywhere from no cost to the division to (if precedent serves accurately)\$500-\$700 if a "module" is purchased to use across all employees; however, if teachers are required to complete a course based certification or a class, the cost may be as much as \$350-\$700 per teacher, and we recertify an average of 250 teachers per year. Estimate is based on two modules to use across all employees.

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