

**Commission on Local Government**

**Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact**

2020 General Assembly Session

**Bill:** HB1554

**Patron:** Samirah

**Date:** 1/27/2020

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:**

Public schools; Mental Health First Aid training. Requires each school board to adopt and implement policies that require each teacher and other relevant personnel, as determined by the school board, who are employed on a full-time basis to complete a Mental Health First Aid training or similar program every three years. The bill requires each school board to provide such training and allows a school board to contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, a community services board, a behavioral health authority, a nonprofit organization, or a certified trainer of the Mental Health First Aid training program to provide such training.

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**Executive Summary:**

Localities have evaluated a negative fiscal impact ranging from \$0.00 - \$200,000.00. Some localities responded with a cost, and noted that the cost would be related to implementation of a mental health training program, retraining, certification, and recertification of relevant personnel. Of those who responded with no cost noted that the bill would not impact them or their school system is county's responsibility. One locality noted that there would be cost but the cost is indeterminate.

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**Local Analysis:**

**Locality:** City of Danville

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$30,000.00

This would reflect the cost of training about 300 employees. This does not reflect the ongoing training cost to meet the re-training requirement, which may go up.

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**Locality:** City of Harrisonburg

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

There would be a fiscal impact, however, city school was not able to determine what the estimate would be.

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**Locality:** City of Roanoke

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

Though the City of Roanoke provides funding to our Roanoke City Public School system, that allocation is based on a funding formula tied to our local revenues. The School system is responsible for its own budget process. City Council and the City Manager's Office do not have jurisdiction on how their budget is established or how the School system spends its funds. As such, though this bill will impact the Schools, it has no fiscal impact on the City itself.

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**Locality:** City of Virginia Beach

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$200,000.00

Creation and implementation of a mental health training and certification process for all teachers and relevant personnel in the Virginia Beach City Public Schools is estimated to cost \$200,000 initially. There would also be additional costs of \$100,000 every 3 years during the re-certification process detailed by this bill. Also, as new teachers enter the workforce and must be certified according to the standards set forth by this bill, there would be added annual costs.

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**Locality:** Town of Buchanan

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

Our town does not budget for public schools as this is handled at the county level.

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**Professional and Other Organization**

**Analysis:**

**Organization:** Northern Neck PDC

Without additional state funding to provide training, this requirement adds a fiscal burden to already-distressed rural counties.

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