

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB223

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: McNamara

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Department of Education; recommendations for improving civic education.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Education to develop and report to the Board of Education, the Governor, and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than July 1, 2021, recommendations for improving civic education for each public elementary and secondary school student in the Commonwealth, including strategies for (i) expanding their level of civic knowledge, (ii) increasing their respect for the political history of the Commonwealth and the United States, (iii) mitigating the politically polarizing effects that the mainstream media can have on such students, and (iv) helping such students become civically and politically engaged in a rational and civil manner.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 137.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: To provide the report required by this bill, the Department of Education (DOE) anticipates the need to:

- survey students, teachers, and outside entities to determine a baseline of information regarding the current level of involvement students have in civic engagement;
- convene various committees of K-12 educators, members of various organizations and entities with a civic education interest to gather input regarding recommendations to meet the provisions of the proposed legislation; and
- convene a committee of school division history and social science specialists to disaggregate the student survey data and input from the committees to develop recommendations for implementation.

DOE estimates an additional state cost of \$62,500 in FY 2021 to develop recommendations for improving civic education according to the plan outlined above.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: According to DOE's regular schedule of Standards of Learning review and revisions, the History and Social Science standards are scheduled to begin in winter of 2021. Therefore, it may be appropriate to change this bill's reporting deadline from July 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.