

Commission on Local Government

Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact

2020 General Assembly Session

Bill: HB716

Patron: Reid

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:

Certain public school employees; online mental health awareness training required. Requires the Department of Education to adopt and implement policies that require each teacher, school counselor, school athletics team coach, and school activity supervisor to complete an online mental health awareness training. The bill requires the Department of Education to provide such training and permits the Department of Education to contract with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, a community services board, a behavioral health authority, a nonprofit organization, or other certified trainer to provide such training.

~~~~~

**Executive Summary:**

All localities responded that the cost of the bill is indeterminate, but would be insignificant. They also noted that the cost would be related to potential travel expenses, depending on whether the training is in person or not. One locality noted that the bill could increase the workload for CSBs but could potentially provide a revenue source for those local CSBs.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Local Analysis:**

**Locality:** City of Danville

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

If the Department of Education is implementing the training, it would only cost localities if the training was in-person to cover travel expenses. On-line training would have minimal impact.

~~~~~

Locality: City of Harrisonburg

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

There would be a fiscal impact, however, city schools are unable to determine an estimate.

~~~~~

**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.

~~~~~  
Locality: City of Virginia Beach

Estimated Fiscal Impact: \$0.00

This bill requires training costs by the Virginia Department of Education rather than localities. Unless VDOE collects a fee for the distribution of the training, there would be no local fiscal impact. There may be a workload impact to CSBs should VDOE contract with local CSBs as authorized by the bill's text, but this may also provide revenue to the local CSB; how DOE drafts the administration of these policies would most determine the local fiscal impact.

~~~~~  
**Locality:** Town of Buchanan

**Estimated Fiscal Impact:** \$0.00

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

~~~~~  
Professional and Other Organization

Analysis:

Organization: Northern Neck PDC

State funding should accompany this new requirement, or make training available to the teachers without cost to the local school boards (or for those without taxing authority, the counties).

~~~~~