

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB625H1

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

2. Patron: Rasoul

3. Committee: Finance and Appropriations

4. Title: Public education; community schools; Office of Community Schools at Department of Education.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Education to establish the Office of Community Schools as an office within the Department for the purpose of supporting the development and growth of community schools throughout the Commonwealth in accordance with the Virginia Community School Framework and requires the Office to establish and administer the Community School Development and Implementation Planning Grant for the purpose of providing grants to school boards that seek to designate any school within the local school division as a community school to assist with the planning and implementation of such designation. The bill also establishes a state goal of prioritizing funding for such initiatives and grants to enable their expansion to serve the top 33 percent of public elementary and secondary schools in the Commonwealth for highest identified student percentage, as defined in the bill, based on data from the immediately preceding school year.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 117.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Education (DOE) anticipates that three additional positions would be required to staff a new Office of Community Schools and administer the program established by the bill at an estimated total cost of \$415,512 general fund per year beginning in FY2025 for salary, benefits, and technology.

The amount of funding necessary for the Community School Development and Implementation Planning Grants is indeterminate and depends on the amount of funding appropriated by the General Assembly for such grants and the size of such grants. The bill requires the Office to offer such funding to schools in the top 20 percent of public schools for highest identified student percentage and states that is the goal of the Commonwealth to prioritize funding for these programs to the top 33 percent of schools in the Commonwealth for the highest identified student percentage. There would be an increased cost to provide funding to additional schools in future years but the actual cost is indeterminate.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Education, local school divisions

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to SB608.