

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB647ER

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

2. Patron: Coyner

3. Committee: Passed both houses

4. Title: Public education; student literacy measures.

5. Summary: Clarifies several provisions of the Virginia Literacy Act (the Act), enacted during the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly and effective with the 2024-2025 school year, including (i) clarifying that the term "evidence-based literacy instruction" does not include practices that instruct students to gain meaning from print through the use of (a) three-cueing, which includes semantic, syntactic, and graphophonic cues; (b) meaning, structure, and visual cues; or (c) visual memory for word recognition; (ii) removing the option to use a literacy screener approved by the Department of Education for certain purposes enumerated in the Act; (iii) requiring the Department to develop a list of core literacy curricula for students in kindergarten through grade five and supplemental instruction practices and programs and intervention programs for students in kindergarten through grade eight that consist of evidence-based literacy instruction aligned with science-based reading research; and (iv) requiring each division wide literacy plan to address how the local school board will align (a) core reading and literacy curriculum for students in kindergarten through grade five and (b) screening, supplemental instruction, and interventions for students in kindergarten through grade eight with evidence-based literacy instruction practices aligned with science-based reading research.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Governor's introduced budget, HB/SB30, 2024 General Assembly Session, includes \$4,640,000 general fund in FY25 and \$4,640,000 general fund in FY26 related to implementation of the Virginia Literacy Act. The Department of Education anticipates that the requirements of this bill can be met within the appropriation in the introduced budget and no additional funding is needed. Any impact to local school divisions 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 SB624.