

**Department of Planning and Budget  
2025 General Assembly Session  
State Fiscal Impact Statement**

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**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** SB1232

**Patron:** Aird

**Bill Title:** Autism Advisory Council; name change; membership; staffing; powers and duties.

**Bill Summary:** Provides for the Autism Advisory Council to be reconstituted as a permanent, independently staffed agency in the legislative branch of state government. Currently, the Autism Advisory Council is set to expire on July 1, 2027. The bill repeals that expiration date and renames the agency as the Autism Commission. The bill also modifies the membership of the Commission to more closely align with the membership makeup of other independently staffed legislative agencies and directs the Commission to appoint and employ an executive director and other staff to assist in carrying out the duties of the Commission.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes

**Items Impacted:** 1, 6

**Explanation:** The House of Delegates and Senate of Virginia will incur costs associated with the compensation of the members on this commission. Travel expenses of all members will be paid for by the Commission, which will be under the Department of Legislative Services. This legislation provides the authority for the commission to appoint staff, however it is unknown how many staff the Commission may hire and the anticipated salaries.

**Fiscal Summary:**

**General Fund Expenditure Impact:**

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>
GA	\$0	\$10,800	\$10,800	\$10,800	\$10,800	\$10,800
DLS	\$0	\$15,012	\$15,012	\$15,012	\$15,012	\$15,012
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$25,812</b>	<b>\$25,812</b>	<b>\$25,812</b>	<b>\$25,812</b>	<b>\$25,812</b>

**Fiscal Analysis:** The fiscal impact of this bill primarily involves the costs associated with meetings. It is estimated the member compensation will be approximately \$6,000 for the House and \$4,800 for the Senate. This provides for six House members and four Senate members attending four meetings per year, the average number of meetings a commission of this nature usually involves and will be paid by the offices of the Clerk of the House of Delegates or the Clerk of the Senate. The travel expenses are expected to be \$7,340 for the House and \$5,872 for the Senate, and will be paid for by the Commission unless it is unfunded, in which case it shall be approved by the Joint Rules Committee. Compensation and travel expenses for the three nonlegislative citizen members will be \$1,800 and shall be paid for by the Commission.

This bill grants the Commission the authority to employ an executive director and other necessary staff. It is unknown how many staff the Commission may hire and the anticipated salaries.

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**Other:** Companion to HB1772. SB389 was enrolled during the 2024 General Assembly session, however no appropriation was provided in Chapter 2, 2024 Acts of Assembly, Special Session I for the Autism Advisory Council.