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

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Bill Number: HB1674H1 **Patron:** Laufer
Bill Title: Board of Education; accreditation requirements for professional education programs; exemption for professional education programs leading to certain endorsements.

Bill Summary: Directs the Board of Education to amend its regulations relating to accreditation requirements for professional education programs in the Commonwealth to require the Department of Education to provide an alternative to requirements for any professional education program that leads to certain administration and supervision and support personnel endorsements and has a secured specialty area accreditation from a specialized accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** 123
Explanation: The Department of Education anticipates an additional cost to contract with an accreditation agency to provide an alternative to the existing accreditation.

Fiscal Summary: The Department of Education estimates an additional cost of $35,000 general fund per year per additional accreditation agency to provide an alternative accreditation.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
201 (DOE)	$0	$35,000	$35,000	$35,000	$35,000	$35,000
TOTAL	**$0**	**$35,000**	**$35,000**	**$35,000**	**$35,000**	**$35,000**

Fiscal Analysis: This bill requires the Department of Education (DOE) to provide an alternative to the requirement to obtain accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) for certain professional education programs. DOE indicates that the agency does not currently have the ability to provide specialty area accreditation and would likely need to contract with another accreditation agency to provide an alternative to the CAEP accreditation. The current system that DOE uses requires a fee to CAEP in the amount of $35,000 per year to conduct evaluations of programs and provide a national accreditation. Based on this, DOE estimates an additional cost of $35,000 general fund per year for each added option beginning in FY26 to contract to provide additional accreditation options for these programs. Without additional funding, DOE would have to absorb the cost for the additional accrediting contract or pass that cost on to the Education Preparation Program that utilizes the option.

Other: This fiscal impact statement was revised after additional feedback was received from the Department of Education.