

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB1262S1 **Patron:** Pekarsky
Bill Title: Public schools; student discipline; Restorative Schools in Virginia Pilot Program; established.

Bill Summary: Establishes the Restorative Schools in Virginia Pilot Program (the Program), to be administered by the Department of Education (the Department), for the purpose of addressing school discipline issues and promoting evidence-based restorative practices, as that term is defined in the bill, in public schools in the Commonwealth by awarding grants to an eligible school division in each superintendent's region in the Commonwealth to be used in developing and implementing a comprehensive plan to integrate evidence-based restorative practices in such school divisions in accordance with the provisions of the bill. The bill directs the Department to (i) develop the application process by which a school board may apply, as defined in the bill, in the applicable school division to receive funds pursuant to the Program; (ii) establish criteria for the selection and award of grants pursuant to the Program; and (iii) develop a process for evaluating the progress and performance of each eligible school division selected to receive a grant pursuant to the Program in implementing such evidence-based restorative practices and satisfying the Program requirements set forth in the bill. The bill requires any eligible school division selected to receive funds pursuant to the Program to (a) establish a learning collaborative for the purpose of developing a comprehensive plan for implementing evidence-based restorative practices in such school in accordance with the provisions of the bill and (b) submit to the Department by July 1 of each year immediately following any year for which such eligible school division receives a grant a report on the school's progress in implementing such evidence-based restorative practices for the preceding school year.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** 117

Explanation: Additional funding would be required to fund grants for the Restorative Schools in Virginia Pilot Program established in the bill. The Department of Education would also require a position and funding to support development and administration of the program.

Fiscal Summary: Any additional funding for grant awards is indeterminate. The Department of Education estimates a total cost of \$140,952 general fund beginning in FY26 to administer the program.

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>
201 (DOE)	\$0	\$140,952	\$140,952	\$140,952	\$140,952	\$140,952
TOTAL	\$0	\$140,952	\$140,952	\$140,952	\$140,952	\$140,952

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Position Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>
201 (DOE)	0	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL						

Fiscal Analysis: This bill establishes the Restorative Schools in Virginia Pilot Program to award grants to schools in each Superintendent’s region to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to integrate evidence-based restorative practices. Any amount for grant awards is indeterminate and would depend on the amount appropriated.

The bill would require the Department of Education (DOE) to implement and administer the pilot program. DOE anticipates the need for an additional position to be responsible for program development, administration, oversight, and evaluation. DOE estimates a total cost of \$140,952 general fund per year beginning in FY26 including salary and benefits. This assumes \$85,000 for salary, \$45,952 for benefits, and \$10,000 for travel and technology allowances.

Other: This bill is similar to HB2196.