

Fiscal Summary: Because these changes align with existing policy established in 2007, there is no anticipated fiscal impact associated with this legislation.

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

General Fund Expenditure Impact: None. Additional funding of \$105.4 million was included in the governor's introduced budget to fund projected caseload and expenditure growth through the biennium based on current policies and procedures, which are not altered by this legislation.

Fiscal Analysis: This legislation is not anticipated to have an impact on the projected costs of the Children's Services Act (CSA). The current policy related to children in need of services was developed pursuant to an opinion provided by Attorney General Robert F. McDonnell in December 2006. This legislation would clarify the population served pursuant to this policy as a mandated population under CSA Code.

Other: The state has historically provided all necessary general fund appropriation to reimburse localities for services provided pursuant to the Children's Services Act. This legislation eliminates, in paragraph A of § 2.2-5211, the phrase "as made available by the General Assembly". While eliminating this phrase does not impact the cost of programs, nor represent any change in policy or current practice of the General Assembly to provide adequate funding for this program, it is possible the change could be interpreted as creating an entitlement that is not subject to appropriation.

This legislation is a companion to HB2282.