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

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Bill Number: SB905ER Patron: Stanley

Bill Title: School boards; Internet safety education program; Internet Safety Advisory Council

established.

Bill Summary: Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to establish and appoint no more than 12 members to the Internet Safety Advisory Council and requires the Council to (i) develop, annually review, and update as necessary, after study and consideration of a variety of sources and perspectives, guidelines on model policies and best practices relating to Internet safety for school boards that enable such school boards to better support the Internet safety of all students and teachers in the local school division; (ii) develop, post, and maintain on the Department of Education's website a page with links to instructional practices, curricula, and other teacher resources for the safe use of media and technology by students and teachers; (iii) review and update as necessary the resources developed by the Internet Safety Advisory Council established in 2022 and use such updated resources to develop the requirements of the bill; and (iv) submit a report of its findings to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health no later than October 31, 2025. The bill also directs that each school division shall consider and may incorporate into its instructional program the resources provided by the department. The provisions of the bill establishing the Council have an expiration date of July 1, 2026.

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

Explanation: The Department of Education would require additional one-time assistance for staff to

support the work of the Internet Safety Advisory Council and there would also one-time

costs to facilitate meetings of the Council.

Fiscal Summary: The Department of Education (DOE) anticipates the need for 0.25 of an FTE at an estimated total cost of \$42,738 one-time to support the work required by this bill. DOE also estimates a one-time cost of \$20,000 for expenses related to Council meetings.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
201 (DOE)	\$0	\$62,738	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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TOTAL	\$0	\$62,738	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Analysis: The bill directs the Internet Safety Advisory Council, appointed by the Superintendent, to develop model policies and instructional practices related to internet safety and the safe use of media and technology. Previously, an Internet Safety Advisory Council was established in 2022 and sunset on July 1, 2024. Any work of the previous Internet Safety Advisory Council and previous model policies would be reviewed to

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determine if they meet the requirements of this bill. DOE staff would support the work of the Council and DOE estimates the need for an additional .25 of an FTE at a total cost of \$42,738 including salary, benefits, technology, and travel to support this work. This assumes \$21,500 for salary, \$11,238 for benefits and \$10,000 for technology and travel costs. DOE also anticipates that \$20,000 would be needed for expenses for quarterly meetings of the Council. Since the bill directs that the provisions related to the Council and its work shall expire in FY27, these costs would be one-time. Any impact to local school divisions to consider and incorporate instructional materials are indeterminate.

Other: None.