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

PUBLISHED: 3/7/2025 12:06 PM ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB955ER Patron: VanValkenburg

Bill Title: Public schools; textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials.

Bill Summary: Makes several changes relating to the textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials that are utilized as the curriculum basis for public elementary and secondary school student instruction, including (i) defining such term for the purpose of various laws and regulations relating to approval, procurement, and no-cost provision of such materials; (ii) requiring each local school board to adopt and implement textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials in English language arts for grades six through 12 and mathematics, science, and history and social studies for grades kindergarten through 12 and requiring the Department of Education to support such local adoption and implementation in several ways; and (iii) requiring each education preparation program offered by a public institution of higher education or private institution of higher education or alternative certification program that provides training for any student seeking initial licensure by the Board of Education with an endorsement in early/primary education preschool through grade three, elementary education preschool through grade six, middle education grades six through eight, and secondary education grades six through 12 to include a program of coursework and clinical experience and require all such students to demonstrate mastery in identifying and implementing textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026. The bill also directs the Department to in consultation with experienced teachers, division-level content specialists, and subject matter experts, evaluate any changes to its current textbook review and approval process that may be necessary to address challenges presented by such process, improve such process, and fully comply with the provisions of the act and report to the Governor and General Assembly by November 1, 2025.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes Items Impacted: 117

Explanation: The Department of Education anticipates the need for additional one-time funding to

support a stakeholder group.

Fiscal Summary: The Department of Education estimates a one-time cost of \$15,000 general fund in FY26

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	FY2025	<u>FY2026</u>	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
201 (DOE)	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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Fiscal Analysis: This bill directs the Department of Education (DOE) to develop a grant program to support schools that require improvement to adopt textbooks or other high-quality instructional materials. This provision has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2026, therefore a budget amendment is not required. Any funding provided for grants would depend on the amount appropriated. DOE can absorb any impact to develop the grant program and to support any other work required to meet this provision. Any impact to local school divisions is indeterminate.

The bill also bill directs the DOE to consult with experienced teachers, division level content specialists, and subject matter experts to evaluate its current textbook review process and report on this work by November 1, 2025. DOE anticipates one-time costs to convene stakeholder workgroups to meet this requirement. DOE estimates a cost of \$15,000 general fund in FY26.

Other: This bill is a companion to HB2777.