

Commission on Local Government

Estimate of Local Fiscal Impact

2026 General Assembly Session | 01/12/26

In accordance with the provisions of 30-19.03 of the Code of Virginia, the staff of the Commission on Local Government offers the following analysis of legislation impacting local governments.

SB 87: Local government sporting events and sporting facilities; automated external defibrillators. (Patron: William M Stanley, Jr.)

Bill Summary: Requires localities to ensure that operational automated external defibrillators are available at local government sporting events and sporting facilities. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2028.

Local Fiscal Impact: Net Additional Expenditure: x Net Reduction of Revenues:

Summary Analysis:

Number of Localities Responding: 5 Cities, 14 Counties, 1 Town, 1 Other

Localities estimated a negative fiscal impact ranging from \$1000 to \$12.25 million over the biennium.

Localities identified the bill's fiscal impact as minor in some instances and significant in others. The range for a single automated external defibrillator (AED) is \$ 1,400- \$ 2,500. The required range for AED purchases is 1 to 1704 units to meet the bill requirements, representing most of the one-time costs associated with the bill. Larger localities stated that, with multiple indoor and outdoor facilities, they would need to purchase multiple AEDs for certain sites to remain within the 200-foot retrieval distance requirement. Additional costs associated with the bill include building secure structures to house the AEDs at outdoor facilities, testing and certification of the AEDs, battery and electrode pad replacements, and other maintenance. The cost of such maintenance varies depending on whether the locality must hire additional staff or expand the current maintenance contract to cover the additional AEDs.

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Net Increase in Expenditures: Itemized Estimates by Responding Localities

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Locality	Nonrecurring Expense - Operating		Nonrecurring Expense - Capital		Nonrecurring Expense - Other		Total Increase in Expenses (Biennium Total)	Response Totals
	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28	FY27	FY28		
Albemarle County							0	Cities: 5
Alleghany County	20000	0	0	0	0	0	23,200	Counties: 14
Augusta County	0						0	Towns: 1
Bedford County	0	0	0	66000	0	0	75,600	Other: 1
Chesterfield County	0	63000					63,000	Total: 21
City of Alexandria	0	158000				0	176,000	
City of Harrisonburg	0	0					0	
City of Manassas	0	0					50,000	
City of Richmond	0	0					0	
City of Virginia Beach	75600	0	0	0	0	0	75,600	
Roanoke County		0	50000			0	380,000	
Craig County		0					0	
Fairfax County	12000000	0					12,250,000	
Mecklenburg County	0	0					0	
Montgomery County	0	0	30000	0	0	0	46,000	
Northern Neck PDC	0	0					0	
Prince George County	0	0	0	6435			6,435	
Prince William County	0	832000	0				932,000	
Rappahannock County	0	0	0			0	7,000	
Smyth County	0	0	0	0			0	
Town of Chincoteague	0	0	1000				1,000	

Locality	Expenditure Narrative by Responding Localities
Albemarle County	The bill has a delayed start date of July 2028, so no fiscal impacts in the next two years are expected. However, after the bill is in effect, one time expenses could total ~\$60,000, while annual operating costs for maintenance, inspection, etc. could total between \$20,000 and \$30,000.
Alleghany County	We will need to purchase approximately 8 new units, which will need to be secured (some in areas that have no shelter from weather) and servicing of these units ongoing.
Augusta County	
Bedford County	Recurring expenditures include annual maintenance costs associated with AEDs plus an assumption that a few units would need to be replaced in any given year. The one-time expenditure is for the initial purchase of enough AEDs to meet the requirements of the bill.
Chesterfield County	Chesterfield County would need approximately 12 additional AEDs to meet the criteria given
City of Alexandria	The bill as proposed would require the purchase of 96 defibrillators at indoor and outdoor sites throughout the City. Estimated cost of \$1,654 per unit for a total purchase price of \$158,000. An additional cost of \$18,000 per year would be required for annual maintenance to ensure units remain tested and operational. Cost per unit factors indoor/outdoor cabinets, replacement parts for pediatric/adult pads, lithium batteries, and battery packs. The bill proposes delayed implementation until 2028 which is reflected in the cost estimate.
City of Harrisonburg	City is ahead of the curve on this initiative so it is not an additional strain on resources. Rural counties will likely face more challenges in meeting this mandate if it is unfunded.
City of Manassas	Initial costs to purchase AEDs for various park locations. As the parks do not have office space to secure the devices, staff will need to inspect weekly. The remote locations will be subject to vandalism and theft resulting in significant recurring costs to replace.
City of Manassas	Consider inclusion of exemption for urban parks in close proximity to fire station/emergency response.

Locality	Expenditure Narrative by Responding Localities
City of Richmond	<p>While this bill would not create a fiscal impact in FY27 and FY28, starting in FY29, it would impact both Richmond Public Schools and Richmond Parks and Rec.</p> <p>As sporting events sponsored or organized by the City of Richmond are sometimes held in RPS school-board owned facilities, the number of AEDs needed for RPS facilities and events to be in compliance would be approximately 42 at the price of \$2,500 for a one-time total of \$105,000. Maintenance replacement of AED equipment would cost RPS \$18,564 in FY33 and every five years thereafter, assuming none were used or needed replacement early.</p> <p>For the department of Parks and Recreation to upgrade the number of AEDs they would need to be in compliance, they would need to purchase roughly 42 more AEDs at the same rate of \$105,000, and would pay approximately \$12,600 much more per year for maintenance, based on doubling the cost of their current maintenance contract in proportion with doubling the number of AEDs.</p>
City of Virginia Beach	<p>To meet the guidelines outlined in the bill, additional AEDs will need to be purchased for recreation centers and sports complexes. A total of 27 new AEDs would need to be purchased. Anticipated costs for one AED is \$2,800, making the total purchase \$75,600 in FY27. Maintenance for existing AEDs are already included in the operating budget and are not anticipated to increase due to the bill.</p>
Roanoke County	<p>Contract pricing per unit appears to be \$2,200 - \$3,000 for an outdoor model and storage cabinet. On the high end, including installation and training to place one at each sporting event as the bill states, our initial request would be \$50,000 with an additional \$15,000 requested annually to cover staff re/certification, biannual battery and electrode pad replacement, as well as an overall replacement program.</p> <p>We would also need to add to our Site Supervisor budget to monitor (set up and take down) the AEDs at the end of the sporting events.</p> <p>This number is dependent on what guidelines may be in place. Example: at one of our parks, we have a combined 12 fields with nearly a mile radius from corner to corner. Would one serve the whole park or would we need one at each sporting event and therefore each park?</p>
Craig County	

Locality	Expenditure Narrative by Responding Localities
Fairfax County	<p>The provisions of the bill become effective on July 1, 2028. While there is no immediate fiscal impact for FY 2027, localities would likely need to secure the required funding over the next two fiscal years (FY 2027 and FY 2028) in order to comply with this proposed unfunded state mandate by the deadline.</p> <p>Based on Fairfax County's significant size and the high number of AED units required under the bill and accounting for additional cost associated with used, broken, lost or stolen equipment, the bill would cost the County over \$12 million initially for purchasing the equipment and annual maintenance cost would be over \$250,000. This cost includes the purchase of additional units for indoor facilities to comply with the new required maximum 200-foot retrieval distance, which is lower than the current placement guidance of 300 feet radius. In addition, the estimated cost includes equipping all of the County's 852 athletic fields with AEDs. All athletic fields are on facilities over 15 acres so two AED units would need to be placed for an estimate of 1,704 units. The life cycle of an AED is about five years so the County could expect additional continuing costs for replacement units in the future. The estimate does not account for additional staff cost to run the program.</p>
Mecklenburg County	Our locality does not own or operate an outdoor or indoor facility for organized athletic or sporting activities. .
Montgomery County	Estimate based on previous year expenditures to maintain AEDs and one-time AED costs.
Northern Neck PDC	<p>The effective date is 7/1/2028 so no impact in next 2 years.</p> <p>Northern Neck PDC owns no sporting facilities, so no fiscal impact.</p>
Prince George County	<p>We entered amounts only in FY28 (bill will take effect 7/1/28 - start of FY29).</p> <p>We determined we would need to add 3 AEDs to our facilities.</p> <p>Current cost is \$1,950, adding a 10% inflator cost per AED is \$2,145 X 3 = \$6,435.00</p> <p>AEDs would need battery replacement every 2-5 years and electrode pad replacement every 2-4 years. Those costs have not been provided (future).</p> <p>Additionally, the expected life of the AED is 10-15 years thus the units would require replacement cyclically. Those costs have not been provided (future).</p>
Prince William County	<p>Based on existing park facilities and complexes, the County would have to purchase an additional 208 AED's at a cost of approximately \$2,500 per AED. Secure outdoor cabinets would need to be purchased for each AED estimated at \$1,500 per cabinet. Installation costs and recurring costs (batteries and pads) would increase expenditures. An additional FTE would be needed to manage the program and provide quarterly inspections of the equipment. Localities would also have to consider legal implications/liability if AEDs were stolen or damaged. Recurring expenditures would increase due to the added inventory and replacement of AED's either due to normal replacement, damage or property loss.</p>

Locality	Expenditure Narrative by Responding Localities
Rappahannock County	\$5,000 for two AEDs with installation and \$1,000 per year to increase part time staffing hours for individual to actively track the requirement.
Smyth County	
Town of Chincoteague	Will require the purchase of equipment 1 time