

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB259

Patron: Simonds

Bill Title: Early childhood care and education; Home-Based Child Care Provider Start-Up Grants Pilot Program established; requirements.

Bill Summary: Establishes the Home-Based Child Care Provider Start-Up Grants Pilot Program, whereby funds are provided to Child Care Aware of Virginia to work in conjunction with the public and private partners enumerated in the bill in order to expand the supply of licensed home-based child care providers in the Commonwealth, promote the safety of licensed home-based child care providers, and support access to child care for working parents in the Commonwealth, through providing for the award of grants to licensed and unlicensed home-based child care providers in the Commonwealth in accordance with the requirements of the bill. The bill requires Child Care Aware of Virginia to annually collect and make publicly available data on the number of home-based child care providers supported under the Program. The bill has an expiration date of July 1, 2029.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: 126

Explanation: The bill establishes the Home-Based Child Care Provider Start-up Grants Pilot Program with such funds as may be appropriated; therefore a budget amendment is only necessary if funding is provided. Any actual impact for grant awards or administration would depend on the amount appropriated. The Department of Education can absorb any impact to oversee the pilot program.

Fiscal Summary: See below.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031
197 (Direct Aid)	\$0	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate
TOTAL	\$0	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate	indeterminate

Fiscal Analysis: The bill establishes the Home-Based Child Care Provider Start-up Grants Pilot Program to be administered by Child Care Aware of Virginia. The bill directs Child Care Aware of Virginia to annually collect and make publicly available data on the number of home-based child care providers that are supported under the Program as a whole and disaggregated by region and licensure status at the time of the grant award. Any actual impact for grant awards or administration would depend on the amount appropriated.

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The Department of Education anticipates that existing staff can absorb any work to oversee this program and distribute funds to Child Care Aware of Virginia.

Other: This bill uses the term “home-based child care provider”. HB258 proposes to update the term “family day home” to “home based child care provider” in the Code of Virginia. If HB258 is not enacted, then the term “home based child care provider” as used in the bill would not be defined in Code.