

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

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**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB85

**Patron:** Laufer

**Bill Title:** State Council of Higher Education; Virginia-specific postsecondary transition counselor certificate program; development and establishment.

**Bill Summary:** Requires the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to collaborate with the Council for Exceptional Children and its Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT) and each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth that has an education preparation program to develop and establish a Virginia-specific postsecondary transition counselor certificate program that is equivalent in rigor and quality to the National Certification in Transition Services offered by DCDT in order to facilitate the establishment of postsecondary transition counselor certificate programs at such institutions that would qualify for program approval by DCDT.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No                            **Items Impacted:** None

**Explanation:** The requirements of this bill may create additional costs to public institutions of higher education. It is expected institutions would absorb this impact.

**Fiscal Summary:** Responding public institutions of higher education anticipate a range of additional costs associated with meeting the requirements of this bill, including salary and benefits costs for additional faculty and staff, startup costs to develop and plan new courses, and accreditation costs. The overall impacts vary due to differences in capacity at each institution. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia anticipates no fiscal impact as a result of the provisions of this bill.

**Other:** None