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

PUBLISHED: 1/28/2026 6:12 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB703 **Patron:** Durant
Bill Title: Public elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education; student participation in women's sports; civil cause of action.

Bill Summary: Requires each interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, or club athletic team or sport sponsored by a public school or any other school that is a member of the Virginia High School League or by a public institution of higher education to be expressly designated as one of the following based on the biological sex of the students who participate on the team or in the sport: (i) males, men, or boys; (ii) females, women, or girls; or (iii) coed or mixed if participation on such team or sport is open to both males and females. The bill requires that the biological sex of any student seeking to participate on such an expressly designated team be affirmed by a signed physician's statement. The bill prohibits any such team or sport that is expressly designated for females from being open to students whose biological sex is male. The bill prohibits any government entity, licensing or accrediting organization, or athletic association or organization from entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation, or taking any other adverse action against any such school or institution of higher education on the basis of the school's or institution's compliance with the provisions of the bill and creates a cause of action for any school or institution of higher education that suffers harm as a result of a violation of the provisions of the bill. Finally, the bill creates a civil cause of action for any student who suffers harm as a result of a knowing violation of a provision of the bill by a school or institution or as a result of the student's reporting a violation of a provision of the bill by a school, institution, athletic association, or organization.

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

Explanation: This bill impacts public institutions of higher education (IHEs) and local school divisions. IHEs can implement within existing resources. The fiscal impact to local school divisions is indeterminate at this time.

Fiscal Summary: Some responding public IHEs anticipate expenses to implement the administrative requirements of the bill, which may require new personnel and changes to existing systems, documents, and procedures; those costs can be supported with existing resources. Additional IHEs anticipate no fiscal impact.

Any fiscal impact to local school divisions is indeterminate at this time.

Other: This fiscal impact statement is preliminary and based on feedback from agencies as of the date of publication. This bill is similar to HB1242.