

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

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**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB705H1

**Patron:** Hayes

**Bill Title:** Board of Education; programs and courses of instruction; water safety instruction for elementary school students required; guidelines.

**Bill Summary:** Requires the Board of Education, during its next regularly scheduled revision of the Health Education Standards of Learning and Curriculum Framework, to develop and make available to each school board guidelines for a program of instruction on water safety to be provided as a part of any health education instruction provided to elementary school students that includes instruction on (i) awareness of water conditions, (ii) safe behaviors in and around the water, and (iii) preventing and reducing the risk of drowning and the risk of injury.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**Items Impacted:** None

**Explanation:** There is no anticipated state fiscal impact as a result of the provisions of this bill. Any impact to local school divisions is indeterminate.

**General Fund Expenditure Impact:**

| <b>Agency</b> | <b>FY2025</b> | <b>FY2026</b> | <b>FY2027</b> | <b>FY2028</b> | <b>FY2029</b> | <b>FY2030</b> |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| None          | \$0           | \$0           | \$0           | \$0           | \$0           | \$0           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$0</b>    | <b>\$0</b>    | <b>\$0</b>    | <b>\$0</b>    | <b>\$0</b>    | <b>\$0</b>    |

**Fiscal Analysis:** The Department of Education can absorb any impact to develop guidelines on a program of instruction on water safety. Any impact to local school divisions to provide instruction is indeterminate.

The Department of Education notes that there are a number of bills that require the Department to develop new guidelines or resources. While the work of each individual bill may be absorbed by existing staff, if several of these bills are adopted during the 2026 session, additional resources may be required.

**Other:** This bill is similar to SB151 as introduced.