

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB362H1

Patron: Dougherty

Bill Title: Public elementary and secondary student textbooks; Printed Textbook Pilot Program established.

Bill Summary: Establishes the Printed Textbook Pilot Program for the purpose of promoting positive educational outcomes by identifying school divisions in which, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, printed textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials serve as the primary curriculum basis for each enrolled student unless otherwise indicated in a student's individualized education program. Directs the Department of Education to administer the pilot program by selecting up to 10 school divisions based on factors such as school and school division performance, enrollment and student demographics, including the percentage of economically disadvantaged students, and the geographic diversity of participating school divisions. Directs the Department to award, with such funds as may be provided, grants to school divisions to purchase printed textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials pursuant to the Pilot Program. Requires the Department to submit a report no later than November 1 of each year on (i) data and information on (a) implementation challenges and best practices; (b) student, parent, administrator, and educator satisfaction with the Pilot Program; and (c) student learning and outcomes and (ii) any other data and information that the Department deems appropriate for informing decisions to modify or expand the Pilot Program.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: 124

Explanation: This bill establishes a pilot program with such funds as may be appropriated for such purposes; therefore a budget amendment is necessary only if funds are provided for grants. Any actual impact for grant awards would depend on the amount appropriated. The Department of Education can absorb any impact to administer the program if funded.

Fiscal Summary: See below.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill establishes the Printed Textbook Pilot Program, which would be administered by the Department of Education (DOE). The bill directs that any funds appropriated for this purpose should be used to provide grants to local school divisions to purchase printed textbooks and other high-quality instructional materials. Any fiscal impact under Direct Aid to Public Education related to program grants depends on the amount appropriated for this purpose.

DOE can absorb any impact to administer the grants if funding is provided for the pilot program.

Other: None