

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

---

**PUBLISHED: 2/12/2026 4:44 PM**

**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB495H1

**Patron:** Guzman

**Bill Title:** School boards; mental health awareness training; anonymous student reporting system.

**Bill Summary:** Permits each school board to adopt and implement policies that require each school bus driver employed on a full-time basis to complete a mental health awareness training or similar program at least once. The bill also directs that the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services shall consider condensing and abbreviating the existing mental health first aid training program into a two-hour module that any school board may utilize to train full time school bus drivers.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**Items Impacted:** None

**Explanation:** There is no anticipated state fiscal impact resulting from the provision of this bill. Any impact to local school divisions is indeterminate.

**Fiscal Analysis:** This bill is permissive, therefore there is no budget amendment required. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) notes that the existing mental health first aid training is owned and administered by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, which licenses and regulates all training content and instructor requirements. Therefore, DBHDS cannot condense and develop its own modules from their content. At a minimum, if DBHDS uses the National Council for Mental Wellbeing's content to develop a two-hour module, a contractor would be required to complete the work. Any impact to local school divisions to provide training is indeterminate.

**Other:** None