

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB996 ER

Patron: Seibold

Bill Title: Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition Program; plan for expansion of Program.

Bill Summary: Directs the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, in collaboration with the Department of Education, to develop a plan to expand the Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition (PERT) Program to increase the number of students assisted in the transition from high school to postsecondary programs. The bill requires such plan to identify methods to (i) equip local community services boards with the resources to assist an increased number of students in such transition; (ii) publish online resources about the transition process; and (iii) develop an online dashboard to provide information about possible postsecondary education programs.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: n/a

Fiscal Summary: Minimal/absorbable fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill requires the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, in collaboration with the Department of Education, to develop a plan to expand the Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition (PERT) program. The PERT program is a short-term residential program at Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC) that offers vocational training and counseling to postsecondary students with disabilities. It is expected that any cost or workload impacts associated with the development of a plan to expand the PERT program can be absorbed by existing staff at DARS and/or WWRC.

Other: n/a