

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

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**PUBLISHED: 3/6/2026 10:05 AM**

**ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** HB38ER

**Patron:** Henson

**Bill Title:** Public schools; mental health awareness training and instruction, requirements.

**Bill Summary:** Requires each teacher and other relevant personnel, as determined by the applicable school board, employed on a full-time basis to complete mental health awareness training that addresses the needs of youth populations that are at a high risk of experiencing mental health challenges and disorders in accordance with evidence-based best practices developed by the American Psychological Association. Current law requires such teachers and personnel to complete mental health awareness training but does not contain any requirements relating to the specific topics such training must address. The bill prohibits any of its provisions or any policy adopted in accordance with its provisions from being construed to permit biased or discriminatory treatment of any youth population deemed to be at a high risk of experiencing mental health challenges and disorders.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

**Items Impacted:** None

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

**Fiscal Analysis:** Any impact to local school divisions to update and offer trainings as required by the bill is indeterminate.

**Other:** None