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

PUBLISHED: 3/24/2026 1:25 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB1041H3 **Patron:** Carr
Bill Title: Incarcerated individuals; establishment of general system of schools, etc.

Bill Summary: The conference substitute bill requires the Superintendent employed by the Department of Corrections (the Department) to oversee the operation of all educational and vocational programs in all institutions and community-based programs for adults operated by the Department to implement a functional literacy program for inmates testing below a selected grade level, which shall be at least at the eighth grade level and include evidence-based literacy instruction by January 1, 2027. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Education to, by November 1, 2026, (1) review and update the salary schedules for teachers licensed by the Board of Education and employed by the Department of Corrections to provide instruction in the schools of the correctional centers to be competitive with those in effect for the school division in which the correctional facility is located and (2) make recommendations for the inclusion of such teacher salary increases in the appropriation act. The substitute bill specifies that the Department of Education will review these salaries annually. The bill also establishes the Virginia Prison Education Task Force for the purpose of implementing a consistent education program across all state correctional facilities. The bill requires the Task Force to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly by November 1, 2026.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** None

Explanation: See below.

Fiscal Summary:

The Department of Corrections (DOC), Virginia Community College System (VCCS), Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA), Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM), and Department of Education (DOE) do not expect fiscal impacts from this substitute bill

Fiscal Analysis:

The Department of Corrections (DOC), Virginia Community College System (VCCS), Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM), and Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA) do not expect fiscal impacts as a result of this substitute bill.

The Department of Education (DOE) expects to be able to absorb any impact from reviewing and updating the salary schedules for teachers licensed by the Board of Education and employed by the Department of Corrections as required by the bill.

Other: None