

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7158

AN ACT CONCERNING SAFETY PLANS AND DISCHARGE PLANS FOR MINOR PATIENTS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	31,900	31,900
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	13,000	13,000
Children & Families, Dept.	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Local and Regional School Districts	Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill results in an annual cost to the General Fund of \$44,900 starting in FY 26, primarily to the State Department of Education (SDE) and a minimal, cost to the Department of Children and Families (DCF). The bill requires SDE to develop and share a list of inpatient behavioral health care providers in the state and provide school contact information to each provider for minor safety plans. The Department of Children and Families will need to facilitate receipt and tracking of school nurse contact information.

SDE will require one part-time Administrative Assistant (with an

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

annual salary of \$31,900 and corresponding fringe benefits of \$13,000) to implement the bill's requirements on an ongoing basis.

It is anticipated that DCF will experience minimal overtime costs in FY 26 associated with increased clerical work needed to facilitate the receipt and tracking of school nurse contact information. It is assumed that these costs would be one-time, reflecting the bill's reporting requirement of August 1, 2025. To the extent these activities are required in future years, the same costs would continue. DCF operates the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, a psychiatric inpatient facility for children ages 13 to 17 years.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.