



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2009-10 Legislative Session

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL: 2026

PRINTER'S NO: 2766

PRIME SPONSOR: Conklin

*As amended A05646

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY	FY 2009/10	FY 2010/11
Expenditure Increase/(Decrease):		
General Fund	\$0	\$0

OVERVIEW:

House Bill 2026, as amended by A05646, amends the Public School Code of 1949 by adding Section 1536 relating to dating violence education. The bill requires the Department of Education (PDE) to develop a model dating violence policy to assist districts in developing their own policy for dating violence reporting. The completion deadline for the model policy is six month from the effective date of this bill.

Within one year of the effective date of the bill, school districts are required to establish a policy to address incidents of dating violence. This policy shall include topics such as dating violence reporting procedures, discipline procedures, and a statement that dating violence will not be tolerated. The policy must be published in any school district policy or handbook. Additionally, dating violence training shall be provided to all administrators and other specific staff members. The training shall be provided each year to any appropriate new staff members. School districts must incorporate age-appropriate dating violence education into the health curriculum for students in grades seven through twelve.

This bill takes effect July 1, 2010 or immediately, whichever is later.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 2026 requires PDE to develop a model dating violence policy. Because such policies are available in other states, and one of the functions of PDE is to provide guidance and support to local educators, it is anticipated that any nominal cost incurred can be absorbed within the agency's budget. Therefore, the enactment of HB 2026 will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds.

Local school districts may incur some costs in the development and printing of the policy, as well as staff training and curriculum changes. In general, policy development/printing and staff training are ongoing initiatives in school districts and, as such, should have minimal financial impact. Current PDE academic standards for health education include general violence topics and some school districts may already address dating violence in the health curriculum.

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House Appropriations Committee, (D)

DATE: February 8, 2010

General Note and Disclaimer: *This Fiscal Note was prepared pursuant to House Rule 19(a), and the elements considered and reported above are required by Section 5 of the rule. Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*