

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** House Bill 49

**PRINTER NO.** 2740

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

January 28, 2019

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Brown

**DESCRIPTION**

House Bill 49 amends the Public School Code to allow for course credit to be awarded for the successful completion of a personal financial literacy course during grades 9 through 12. As amended in committee, the legislation also clarifies the powers of school police officers, extends training deadlines for school police officers, school resource officers and school security guards, extends the deadline for the Public Higher Education Funding Commission to issue its report and findings and requires students seeking a fostering independence waiver to apply for federal and state grants.

### Personal Financial Literacy

The legislation provides that at the discretion of a student's public high school governing body, a student who successfully completes a course in personal financial literacy during grades 9 through 12 shall be permitted to apply up to one credit to satisfy the student's social studies, family and consumer science, mathematics, or business education requirement for graduation. The provisions apply to students graduating at the end of the 2020-21 school year.

### School Police Officers

The legislation clarifies that school police officers may exercise the same powers as exercised under the authority of law or ordinance by the police of the municipality in which the school is located.

### School Police Officer, School Resource Officer and School Security Guard Training

The legislation extends the deadline for school police officers, school resource officers and school security guards to receive training required by the National Association of School Resource Officers or an equivalent course from September 2, 2019, until the beginning of the 2020-21 school year.

### Public Higher Education Funding Commission

The legislation extends the deadline for the commission to issue a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly from July 2, 2020, to November 30, 2020.

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## FISCAL NOTE

### Fostering Independence Waiver

The legislation requires students seeking a fostering independence waiver to apply for all available federal and state grants as a qualification for the program.

The provisions related to school police officers, school resource officers and school security guards take effect immediately, and the remainder of the bill is scheduled to take effect in 60 days.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The enactment of House Bill 49 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

The provision requiring students seeking a fostering independence waiver to apply for all available federal and state grants as a qualification for the program will generate additional revenue for the colleges and universities in the Commonwealth. A student eligible for a waiver under this program will likely receive the maximum federal Pell Grant and state grant awards. For the 2020-21 school year, the maximum federal Pell Grant is projected to be \$6,195, and the maximum state grant award is projected to be approximately \$4,100.