



FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 34

Committee: Education Policy

Sponsor: Senator Rodger Smitherman

Analyst: John Friedenreich

Date: 02/19/2025

Senate Bill 34 as introduced, would, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, require students entering the ninth grade, to complete a course in violence prevention, conflict resolution, and mediation before graduation from high school. This would increase the obligations of the State Department of Education by an undetermined amount to: (1) prepare and make available to local boards of education instructional materials, models, and curricula as guidelines for the development of a violence prevention conflict resolution and meditation course or program; and (2) assist in training teachers, to provide effective instruction in violence prevention, conflict resolution and meditation.

Additionally, this bill would increase the administrative obligations of: (1) the local boards of education to determine the appropriate curriculum to satisfy the requirements of this bill; and (2) the State Board of Education to adopt rules to implement the provisions of this bill.