

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB239

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Hashmi

3. Committee: Finance and Appropriations

4. Title: STEM+C; included in Standards of Learning.

5. Summary: Adds science, technology, engineering, mathematics and computing (STEM+C), which includes real-world, interdisciplinary, and computational instruction and preparation of students in STEM+C, to the list of topics that shall be included in the Standards of Learning for the Commonwealth. The bill also directs the Virginia STEM Education Advisory Board to develop and submit to the Board of Education (i) a rubric that shall be used by the Board of Education in setting out what factors permit a school to be defined as a STEM school and (ii) recommendations for the Board to create a measurement for quality of STEM programming in general education instruction. The bill also directs the Virginia STEM Education Advisory Board to draft and report to the Department of Education proposed common language and terminology that better defines the basic literacies employed in STEM+C as methodological approaches to solving universal human challenges and, as essential, generalizable and transferable literacy toward the application of skills and content needed to solve those challenges. The bill also directs the Department of Education, based on such proposed language and terminology and no later than December 1, 2022, to recommend finalized language and terminology to the Board of Education.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 129

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Education (DOE) can absorb any costs associated with the initial implementation of the bill. DOE estimates that \$126,674 of general fund support will be needed annually beginning in FY24 for salary, benefits, and technology costs for a specialist to manage the designation of STEM schools and provide technical support.

The Virginia STEM Education Advisory Board, supported by the Secretary of Education's Office, anticipates that it can absorb any additional cost resulting from the provisions of this bill.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Board of Education, Department of Education, Virginia STEM Education Advisory Board

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar to HB221.