

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
FISCAL NOTE**

BILL NO. House Bill 416

PRINTER NO. 2322

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

February 4, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Quinn

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 416 establishes Section 1414.11 (Seizure Recognition and Related First Aid Training) in the Public School Code, to be referred to as the Dominate Epilepsy Law, to provide that school nurses and other professional employees may complete online or in-person seizure management training approved by the Department of Health (department) beginning in the 2022-23 school year.

The legislation requires the department, in consultation with the Department of Education, to identify and approve an online course of instruction or in-person training in seizure management provided by a nonprofit national foundation that supports the welfare of individuals with epilepsy and seizure disorders by June 30, 2022.

The legislation provides that the seizure management training shall be provided at no cost and credited toward a professional educator’s continuing professional education requirements.

The legislation provides that a professional employee of a school entity who completes seizure training is not obligated to administer medication or provide medical care. It also provides that a professional employee acting in good faith and within the scope of this section is not liable for civil damages because of an act or omission in the course of any training or related first aid.

The legislation requires the department to provide nonpublic schools with access to the approved online course of instruction or in-person seizure management training at no cost to the nonpublic school. It specifies that the legislation does not obligate a nonpublic school to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and does not establish any contractual obligation on the part of a nonpublic school. It also provides that a nonpublic school employee or a nonpublic school acting in good faith and within the scope of this section is not liable for civil damages because of an act or omission in the course of any training or related first aid except that the employee may be liable for willful misconduct.

The legislation defines school entity as a school district, intermediate unit, area career and technical school, charter school, cyber charter school or regional charter school.

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

The legislation is scheduled to take effect immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The enactment of Senate Bill 416 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The administrative costs related to the requirement that the Department of Health approve a program of seizure management training should be minimal and can be accomplished within its existing operating budget as the Epilepsy Foundation provides online seizure management courses for both school nurses and school personnel free of charge.