2026 Special Session I

Budget Bill - HB30 (Enrolled)

Department of Social Services

Item 328

First Year - FY2027 Second Year - FY2028

Program Management Services (45100)	**$73,648,812**	**$76,368,002**
Training and Assistance to Local Staff (45101)	$9,978,106	$9,978,106
Central Administration and Quality Assurance for Benefit Programs (45102)	$27,844,392	$27,844,392
Central Administration and Quality Assurance for Family Services (45103)	$14,154,573	$14,154,573
Central Administration and Quality Assurance for Community Programs (45105)	$16,824,620	$19,543,810
Central Administration and Quality Assurance for Child Care Activities (45107)	$4,847,121	$4,847,121
Fund Sources:		
General	$36,722,464	$38,988,145
Special	$100,000	$100,000
Dedicated Special Revenue	$350,000	$350,000
Federal Trust	$36,476,348	$36,929,857

Authority: Title 2.2, Chapter 54; Title 63.2, Chapters 2 and 21, Code of Virginia; Title VI, Subtitle B, P.L. 97-35, as amended; P.L. 103-252, as amended; P.L. 104-193, as amended, Federal Code.

A. The Department of Social Services, in collaboration with the Office of Children's Services, shall provide training to local staff serving on Family Assessment and Planning Teams and Community Policy and Management Teams. Training shall include, but need not be limited to, the federal and state requirements pertaining to the provision of the foster care services funded under § 2.2-5211, Code of Virginia. The training shall also include written guidance concerning which services remain the financial responsibility of the local departments of social services. Training shall be provided on a regional basis at least once per year. Written guidance shall be updated and provided to local Office of Children's Services teams whenever there is a change in allowable expenses under federal or state guidelines. In addition, the Department of Social Services shall provide ongoing local oversight of its federal and state requirements related to the provision of services funded under § 2.2-5211, Code of Virginia.

B.1. By November 1 of each year, the Department of Planning and Budget, in cooperation with the Department of Social Services, shall prepare and submit a forecast of expenditures for cash assistance provided through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, mandatory child day care services under TANF, foster care maintenance and adoption subsidy payments, upon which the Governor's budget recommendations will be based, for the current and subsequent two years to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees.

2. The forecast of expenditures shall detail the incremental general fund and federal fund adjustments required by the forecast each year in the biennial budget. The Department of Planning and Budget shall convene a meeting on

or before October 15 of each year with the appropriate staff from the Department of Social Services, and the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees to review current trends and assumptions used in the forecasts prior to their finalization.

C. The Department of Social Services shall provide administrative support and technical assistance to the Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) Board of Trustees established in §§ 63.2-2100 through 63.2-2103, Code of Virginia.

D. Out of this appropriation, $3,327,500 the first year and $3,630,000 the second year from the general fund and $1,512,500 the first year and $1,210,000 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided to fund the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) contract cost.

E.1. Out of this appropriation, 10 positions and the associated funding shall be dedicated to providing ongoing financial oversight of foster care services. Each of the 10 positions, with two working out of each regional office, shall assess and review all foster care spending to ensure that state and federal standards are met. None of these positions shall be used for quality, information technology, or clerical functions.

2. By September 1 of each year, the Department of Social Services shall report to the Governor, the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees, and the Director, Department of Planning and Budget regarding the foster care program's statewide spending, error rates and compliance with state and federal reviews.

F. The Department of Social Services shall provide an annual report on the activities of the Office of New Americans by December 1 of each year.

G. The maximum allowable costs for state and local agencies to administer the Percentage of Income Payment Program (PIPP) shall not exceed $5.5 million annually in totality. This includes costs borne by the Department of Social Services, the Department of Housing and Community Development and local departments of social services for PIPP administration.

H. Out of this appropriation, $54,309 the first year and $54,309 the second year from the general fund and $162,926 the first year and $162,926 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided to implement the Virginia Facilitated Enrollment Program.

I. Any unexpended balance, as of June 30, 2026, from the amounts appropriated in Item 324, Chapter 725, 2025 Virginia Acts of Assembly, needed to meet the terms of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program overissuance settlement shall not revert to the general fund but shall be carried forward and reappropriated. Any funds reappropriated pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph shall only be used to cover costs outlined in this settlement agreement that expires September 30, 2026.

J. Out of this appropriation, $2,225,540 the first year and $2,225,540 the second year from the general fund and $1,748,639 the first year and $1,748,639 the second year from nongeneral funds is provided to establish and implement a centralized training academy model for local departments of social services. The department shall provide a quarterly report to the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees on the expenditures, implementation progress, and performance outcomes associated with the centralized training academy model.

K. Out of this appropriation, $300,000 the first year and $300,000 the second year from the general fund is provided for the Department of Social Services to create a new statewide program to support the well-being and improve the retention of local department of social services workers.

L. Out of this appropriation, $1,000,000 the first year and $1,000,000 the second year from the general fund and

$1,000,000 the first year and $1,000,000 the second year from nongeneral funds shall be provided as one-time funds for the Department of Social Services to contract with a vendor to assist with the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program error rate reduction efforts. The Director, Department of Planning and Budget, shall unallot this appropriation until the Department of Social Services provides documentation of the contract's cost and shall only allot the contracted amount.

M. Out of this appropriation, $1,500,000 the first year and $1,500,000 the second year from the general fund is provided to connect individuals newly subject to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Medicaid work requirements to qualifying employment or volunteer activities and resources.