Proposed VMAP Budget Amendment - Background:

In partnership with the Virginia Department of Education, the Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP) developed and implemented School Mental Health trainings and materials for school staff, administration, educators, and nurses. This training was quickly and widely utilized with promising feedback from attendees on their improved skills, knowledge, and confidence to manage their students' acute or chronic mental and behavioral health conditions while in school.

Previously funded by federal Health Resources and Services Administration, this program did not get renewed funding from HRSA and will not continue to be available without state funding. VMAP is administered by The Medical Society of Virginia Foundation.

The program trained school nurses in the Commonwealth for the previous two years. Training topics include school avoidance, panic and anxiety, depression, self-harm, and suicide prevention. The VMAP school mental health toolkit serves as a resource for school nurses, teachers, and staff to help recognize when a child is experiencing a mental health challenge and provides practical skills to help such children directly.

Proposed Budget Amendment Language:

Department of Education, Central Office Operations, Item 117 Instructional Services, Program Administration and Assistance for Instructional Services (18102)

Of this amount, $250,000 the second year shall be allocated to the Medical Society of Virginia Foundation to provide trainings on student mental health to school staff, teachers, and nurses through the Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP).