

# 2004 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 396

Offered January 14, 2004

Prefiled January 12, 2004

*A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 2.2-803.2, relating to efficiency reviews for public schools.*

Patrons—Amundson and Bland

Referred to Committee on Education

### **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

#### **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 2.2-803.2 as follows:**

**§ 2.2-803.2. School division efficiency reviews.**

*A. From such funds as may be appropriated or otherwise received for such purpose, and upon written request by a local school board or the division superintendent, the Comptroller shall conduct a review of the relevant school division's central operations. Such review shall examine noninstructional expenditures and identify opportunities to improve operational efficiencies and reduce costs for the division.*

*In addition, such reviews shall include, but not be limited to, examinations of overhead, human resources, procurement, facilities use and management, financial management, transportation, technology planning, and energy management, but shall not address the effectiveness of the educational services being delivered.*

*The Comptroller may include additional areas for review as he deems appropriate.*

*All agencies, authorities, and institutions of the Commonwealth shall cooperate and provide such assistance as the Comptroller may request.*

*B. The Comptroller shall conduct such reviews within two calendar years of such request and shall, in his discretion, determine the sequence, timing, and duration of such reviews.*

*C. At the conclusion of each review, the Department shall provide a written report of its findings, including exemplary practices that may be useful for replication by other school divisions and recommendations for improved services and greater efficiencies. Such recommendations shall be advisory only, and school divisions may adopt or reject such recommendations in whole or in part.*

*The Department shall make all final reports, recommendations, related tables, and appendices available to the public. However, records and information concerning identifiable school board employees shall be exempt from disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.).*

*D. The Commonwealth shall not seek reimbursement from the school division or relevant local government for the costs associated with such school efficiency reviews.*

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