

Department of Planning and Budget
2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB1085H1

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☒ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☒ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron Scott, E.T.

3. Committee General Laws

4. Title State Library Board; use of state funds.

5. Summary/Purpose:

Currently, localities with a population greater than 5,000 are prohibited from spending public funds to employ any person in a professional librarian position who does not meet the qualifications established by the state library board, principally a Master of Library Science (MLS) degree. The way this is implemented is that localities of this size which do not have an MLS-certified library director are subject to a 25 percent penalty in the formula for distribution of state aid to local libraries. This bill changes the population threshold from 5,000 to 13,000, and changes the funds to which the prohibition applies from "public funds" to "funds derived from any state aid".

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: final. See line 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: The effect of the change in the population threshold would be to remove the 25 percent penalty from three of the four counties to which it currently applies. Essex, Madison and Mathews Counties would see significant increases in their state aid allocations. Caroline County would be the only remaining county with a penalty. All other localities would experience minor decreases, generally \$100 or less, in their allocations.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: All localities with public libraries; the Library of Virginia.

10. Technical amendment necessary: None.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 2/17/04 / jeh

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cc: Secretary of Education