

## Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB222

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron** Marsh

**3. Committee** Education and Health

**4. Title** Cultural diversity policies for local school boards

**5. Summary/Purpose:** The bill requires the Board of Education to establish guidelines to assist school boards in developing cultural diversity policies that promote the knowledge of racial and ethnic cultures, and language minority populations represented in the public schools of the Commonwealth. School boards are required to develop cultural diversity policies that are consistent with Board guidelines and are designed to, among other things, prepare students to live and participate effectively in a global community and an increasingly pluralistic society, and promote communication between and reduce barriers among students and school personnel of diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. The Board must also identify best practices within and outside of the Commonwealth and disseminate this information to school divisions. The term, "cultural diversity policies," as used in the bill does not require mandatory training of students or school board employees concerning cultural diversity, nor does it require hiring quotas or the employment of persons on the basis of race or ethnicity.

**6. Fiscal Impact:** See Item 8.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** Costs would be incurred by the Department of Education (DOE) related to the development of guidelines, identification of best practices, and dissemination of information to school divisions (which could be transmitted through the DOE website). These costs are expected to be minimal. Costs could also be incurred at the local level related to the development of cultural diversity policies by local school boards.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Local school divisions, Department of Education

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 02/18/04 / acd

**Document:** H:\bos\k12 legislation\2004 session\completed bills\SB222.doc.

cc: Secretary of Education