

## Department of Planning and Budget 2005 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB1214

<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** Edwards

**3. Committee** Education and Health

**4. Title** Early childhood education.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** This bill requires, on and after July 1, 2010, all school divisions to provide early childhood education programs for four-year-olds and five-year-olds who are not eligible to attend kindergarten or at-risk early childhood education programs and whose parents voluntarily wish to enroll them in such programs. These mandated early childhood education programs must be coordinated with the current at-risk early childhood programs, consistent with the Department's guidelines for early childhood education, and meet the standards established by the Board of Education. The Board of Education is required to promulgate regulations to implement the orderly phase-in of the required programs with the current voluntary programs for at-risk four-year-olds and at-risk five-year-olds who are not eligible to attend kindergarten. An enactment clause provides that the implementation and funding of the required public school early childhood education programs will be as set forth in the appropriation act. The grants for the at-risk programs may continue to be funded in public schools or other local agencies; however, the Standards of Quality funding of early childhood education will only be provided to public schools.

**6. Fiscal Impact** (See #8.)

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No, only if Board of Education decides the phase-in of this initiative is to begin in FY 2006.

**8. Fiscal implications:** An enactment clause provides that the implementation and funding of the required public school early childhood education programs shall be as set forth in the appropriation act. In accordance with the appropriation act, early childhood education programs for at-risk children that are conducted by public schools or other local agencies may continue to be eligible for grants described in § 22.1-199. However, the Standards of Quality (SOQ) funding of early childhood education will only be provided to public schools.

While the provisions of the bill add early childhood education programs to Standard One of the SOQ, the language does not propose that funding be provided. The funding of the provisions of this bill would have both a local and state impact. The fiscal impact cannot be quantified for two reasons; the bill does not specify whether these programs are required to be full-day programs or whether the requirement could be satisfied with less than full-day programs and it is difficult to predict the voluntary participation in this program.

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

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

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 01/24/05 / acd

**Document:** H\ bos\k12 legislation\2005 session\completed bills\SB1214.doc.

cc: Secretary of Education  
Secretary of Finance