

Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB504

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

2. Patron Armstrong

3. Committee Education

4. Title Reduced tuition rates for employees of the Virginia Community College System.

5. Summary/Purpose:

This bill permits the State Board for Community Colleges to establish policies and guidelines providing for reduced tuition rates at Virginia's community colleges for employees of the Virginia Community College System.

6. No Fiscal Impact (See Item 8.)

7. Budget amendment necessary: None.

8. Fiscal implications: Community colleges already provide tuition reimbursement for many employees as part of their employee development programs. A recent policy change permits payment of tuition up-front, requiring repayment if the employee does not pass or complete the course. Tuition payments for employees are paid from the respective college's foundation funds. Individual community colleges provide different levels of support, depending on their resources. Because the State Board for Community Colleges currently has the authority to establish policies and guidelines for employee tuition payments, and the colleges currently provide this benefit, the proposed legislation would have no fiscal impact.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: The Virginia Community College System and its 23 colleges.

10. Technical amendment necessary: None.

11. Other comments: Department of Human Resource Management Policy 5.10 permits agencies to establish policies to support employees' pursuit of educational opportunities, including college courses and degree programs, that will benefit their agencies, enhance their current job performance, and improve their opportunities for advancement in their agencies. The State Board for Community Colleges has policies in place governing employee educational benefits. The proposed legislation would not have a substantive impact on the availability of tuition benefits for employees of community colleges.

Date: 01/24/06 / jeh

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cc: Secretary of Education