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HOUSE BILL NO. 2166

Offered January 10, 2007
Prefiled January 9, 2007

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 22.1-18.2 and 22.1-90.1, relating to instructional spending in the classroom.

Patron—Cline

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 22.1-18.2 and 22.1-90.1 as follows:

§ 22.1-18.2. Annual report to General Assembly on instructional spending.

The Board shall annually report to the Senate Committee on Finance and the House Committee on Appropriations the amount of spending allocated by local school boards to instructional spending based on the reports submitted to the Board in accordance with § 22.1-90.1.

§ 22.1-90.1. Annual report to Board of Education on instructional spending.

A. Each local school board shall report annually to the Board of Education the percentage of its operating budget allocated to instructional spending. "Instructional spending" means any current expenditures for activities directly associated with the interaction between teachers and students, including teacher salaries and benefits, supplies, textbooks, and purchased instructional services. "Instructional spending" does not include expenditures such as food services, interscholastic athletics, community services, adult education, operation and maintenance of buildings, school administration, student support services (i.e., nurses, guidance counselors, and therapists), and student transportation.

B. Any school board that, according to its annual report, spent less than 67% of its operating budget on instructional spending shall present a plan to the Board to increase such expenditures by 0.5% in the following year. Any school board failing to submit such a plan shall be audited by the Auditor of Public Accounts pursuant to § 15.2-2511. The Auditor of Public Accounts shall, upon completing such audit, submit recommendations to the Board including instruction on how school divisions not meeting the 67% requirement can increase their instructional spending to 67% in the next fiscal year. The Board shall develop the recommendations into a plan for the school division to increase instructional spending.

INTRODUCED