Department of Planning and Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number HB1711
	House of Origin
	Second House
2.	Patron Callahan
3.	Committee Senate Finance
4.	Title Higher Education 9(c) Issuance Bill
5.	Summary/Purpose: The introduced bill authorized the issuance of general obligation bonds subject to the provisions of Article X, Section 9(c) of the Constitution of Virginia in an amount not to exceed \$98,883,000 plus financing costs for revenue-producing capital projects. The Senate substitute adds two projects, one at Christopher Newport University and one at James Madison University, and reduces funding for a project at George Mason University which increases the authorization to issue bonds for a total of \$103,550,000. The bonds are backed by the full faith and credit of the Commonwealth and therefore, constitute tax-supported debt. The bill also states that an emergency exists and that the bill is in force from its passage.
6.	No Fiscal Impact: It is expected that the projects, included in the bill, will generate sufficient nongeneral fund revenues to pay operating expenses and debt service.
7.	Budget amendment necessary: No.
8.	Fiscal implications: Institutions will need nongeneral fund appropriations for debt service once the projects are complete. Institutions of higher education affected by the bill must set rates, fees, and/or charges at levels that will generate sufficient net revenues to retire the debt.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:

George Mason University
Old Dominion University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Christopher Newport University
Department of the Treasury

James Madison University
Virginia State University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Treasury Board

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: According to the Department of the Treasury, financial feasibility studies have been submitted by the impacted institutions.

Date: 02/15/07 / aps

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cc: Secretary of Finance