

## Department of Planning and Budget 2007 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** HB2041

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

**2. Patron** Hamilton

**3. Committee** Senate Education

**4. Title** Department of Correctional Education; online learning.

**5. Summary/Purpose:** The proposed legislation would empower the Department to develop programs for restricted internet access to online higher education courses by incarcerated persons.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** Preliminary. See Item 8.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** None.

**8. Fiscal implications:** The bill would authorize the Department of Correctional Education to develop programs for inmates to access online higher education courses. Should such a program be provided by the Department of Correctional Education, the agency would incur costs associated with the installation of a secure line to provide access to the courses in the correctional facilities. DCE currently has the computers needed to provide such a program.

The tuition costs associated with participating in the online courses would be borne by the inmates.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Correctional Education, Department of Corrections, and VITA

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** None

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 01/16/07 / smc

**Document:** F:\SMC\GA\FIS 2007\HB2041E.Doc

cc: Secretary of Finance

Secretary of Public Safety