

## Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1603

House of Origin	<u>  X  </u>	Introduced	<u>    </u>	Substitute	<u>    </u>	Engrossed
Second House	<u>    </u>	In Committee	<u>    </u>	Substitute	<u>    </u>	Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Poisson

**3. Committee:** Education

**4. Title:** **Schools, middle and secondary; requires local school boards to establish uniform grading policy**

**5. Summary:** Requires local school boards to establish a policy to interpret end-of-course grades in a uniform manner across the Commonwealth in grades 6-12, but allows for a weighted grading system for advanced placement, honors, and International Baccalaureate classes.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary.

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This legislation establishes a statewide uniform grading scale for grades 6 through 12 in public schools. It is anticipated the passage of this bill will generate some additional administrative costs to the local school divisions to implement the new scale. In addition, since the grading policy is to be established locally, it is assumed the Department of Education will incur some minor costs in communicating the changes on a statewide basis. However, the Department of Education anticipates such costs can be absorbed within current resources.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Board of Education and local school divisions.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** Similar to HB1700.

**Date:** 1/19/2009 dpbsbj

**Document:** G:\Legislation\2009\ HB1603.doc

cc: Secretary of Education