

Department of Planning and Budget 2009 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB1547ER

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ Enrolled

2. Patron: Cuccinelli

3. Committee: Passed both houses

4. Title: Eligibility for state financial aid programs.

5. Summary: Provides that persons who have successfully completed a program of home school instruction and certain persons who have been excused from school attendance are eligible to participate in and are eligible for all state-supported financial aid or other higher education programs. The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) is to develop empirical alternative equivalent measures when such programs require a high school grade point average, class rank, or other academic criteria as a condition for participation.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final, see item 8.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

8. Fiscal Implications: According to State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), this language makes students who are home schooled eligible primarily for the Virginia Guaranteed Assistance Program (VGAP), budgeted in each individual state college or university. It is not known at this time what other financial aid or higher education programs might be affected. For state need-based financial aid, there would be no fiscal impact for additional funding as these students are already counted in the SCHEV financial aid model. The Council is also able to accommodate the requirement for developing empirical alternative equivalent measures for grade point average, class rank, or other academic criteria, as needed.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All state colleges and universities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 3/11/2009 rsa

C: Secretary of Education