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HOUSE BILL NO. 76

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Education on February 1, 2010)

(Patrons Prior to Substitute—Delegates Bell, R.P., Loupassi [HB 96] and Comstock [HB 898])

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.

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.

Beginning on July 1, 2011, 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 for each fiscal year 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 for each fiscal year. The Board of Education shall promulgate regulations to define instructional spending.

B. Any school board that, according to its annual report, spent less than 65 percent of its operating budget on instructional spending for the reported fiscal year shall present a plan to the Board to increase such expenditures by 0.5 percent in the following fiscal year. Any school board failing to submit such a plan shall, at the request of the Board, be audited by the Auditor of Public Accounts pursuant to § 15.2-2511. The Auditor of Public Accounts shall, upon completing such audit, submit a report to the Board with such recommendations as the Auditor deems appropriate concerning how school divisions failing to meet the 65 percent requirement may increase their instructional spending. The Board shall develop a plan, based upon such audit and recommendations, if any, to assist such school divisions in increasing instructional spending.