

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 22.1-253.13:9 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Index of*
3 *Performance incentive program.*

4 [S 953]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 22.1-253.13:9 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 22.1-253.13:9. Virginia Index of Performance incentive program.

9 A. Schools and local school divisions shall be recognized by the Board of Education in accordance
10 with guidelines it shall establish for the Virginia Index of Performance (VIP) incentive program. The
11 VIP incentive program shall be designed to recognize and reward fully accredited schools and school
12 divisions that make significant progress toward achieving advanced proficiency levels in reading,
13 mathematics, science, and history and social science, and on other indicators of school and student
14 performance that are aligned with the Commonwealth's goals for public education. Such recognition may
15 include:

- 16 1. Public announcements recognizing individual schools and divisions;
- 17 2. Tangible rewards;
- 18 3. Waivers of certain board regulations;
- 19 4. Exemptions from certain reporting requirements; or
- 20 5. Other commendations deemed appropriate to recognize high achievement.

21 In addition to Board recognition, local school boards shall adopt policies to recognize individual
22 schools through public announcements or media releases as well as other appropriate recognition.

23 *In order to encourage school divisions to promote student achievement in science, technology,*
24 *engineering, and mathematics, the Board of Education shall take into account in its guidelines a school*
25 *division's increase in enrollments and elective course offerings in these areas.*

26 B. A school that maintains a passing rate on Virginia assessment program tests or additional tests
27 approved by the Board of 95 percent or above in each of the four core academic areas for two
28 consecutive years may, upon application to the Department of Education, receive a waiver from annual
29 accreditation. A school receiving such a waiver shall be fully accredited for a three-year period.
30 However, such school shall continue to annually submit documentation in compliance with the
31 pre-accreditation eligibility requirements.

32 C. Schools may be eligible to receive the Governor's Award for Outstanding Achievement. This
33 award will be given to schools rated fully accredited that significantly increase the achievement of
34 students within student subgroups in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Board of Education.