

## Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1344-ER

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

**2. Patron:** Bell, Richard P.

**3. Committee:** Passed Both Houses

**4. Title:** Deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

**5. Summary:** Permits local school divisions to ensure that Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams consider the specific communication needs of children who are deaf or hard-of-hearing and address those needs as appropriate in the child's IEP.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The enrolled bill permits, but does not require, school divisions to ensure that IEP teams consider the specific communication needs of hearing-impaired children and address those needs in the child's IEP. However, many of the provisions of this bill are already established in federal and state special education laws and/or regulations. The consideration of the child's specific communication needs is addressed in the Board's regulations as is the child's language and communication mode, academic abilities, and the availability of communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's mode or language. In addition, the assistive technology devices and services are also addressed in the Board regulations.

Given that the bill does not require school divisions to make any changes to the IEP process, there is not an immediate state or local fiscal impact. However, if any school divisions elect to implement the provisions of this legislation, it could result in a local fiscal impact. There could also be a state fiscal impact if any such school divisions incur additional expenses related to the provisions of this bill and report those expenditures to the Department of Education in the Annual School Report Financial Section (ASRFIN) under cost codes that are recognized by the Standards of Quality (SOQ) funding model. At this time, the number of divisions electing to implement the provisions of this legislation and the extent of such efforts are unknown; therefore, it is not possible to reliably estimate any potential state and local impact resulting from the passage of this legislation.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Board of Education, local school divisions, and the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind.

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

**11. Other Comments:** This bill is similar to SB1097-ER.

**Date:** 2/15/13

**Document:** H:\BOS\Legislative Session\2013 Session\Enrolled FIS\HB1344ER.doc