

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1420-ER

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

2. Patron: Pogge

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Establish definition of 'intervener.'

5. Summary: Requires the Board of Education to promulgate regulations defining "intervener" as an individual with knowledge and skill in the mode of communication of a deaf-blind student and who can communicate to the deaf-blind student what is occurring in the student's educational setting.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Education has been working to build the capacity of educators with deaf-blind students as prescribed in this legislation; however, very few individuals meet the definition of "intervener" at this time. To date in Virginia, 30 paraprofessionals, teachers, and related service providers have completed the necessary training to meet the definition of "intervener." By adding this definition to the regulations, the services of an "intervener" could be included in student individualized education programs (IEPs), but there may not be sufficient staff in the school divisions capable of providing such specialized services.

To the extent that local school divisions must hire an "intervener" to deliver services specified in a student's IEP, this legislation could result in additional costs to local school divisions. However, it is not possible to estimate the potential local impact at this time as it will vary depending on the number of students that require the service of an "intervener" based on their IEPs and the divisions in which such students reside.

For purposes of this estimate, it is assumed that no state funds would be provided to school divisions for the additional costs of employing an "intervener" since the legislation does not explicitly require it. Also, it is anticipated that any additional administrative costs incurred by the Board of Education to establish regulations defining "intervener" could be absorbed within existing resources.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 2/20/13

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