

## Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1377

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** LeMunyon

**3. Committee:** Education

**4. Title:** School boards; assignment of teachers; maximum class sizes.

**5. Summary:** Reduces from 30 to 29 the maximum class size in grades one, two, and three and from 35 to 30, the maximum class size in grades four through six. The bill establishes a maximum class size of 30 students in English classes in grades six through 12 and 24 students in science laboratory classes in grades six through 12. The bill provides that any time the number of students in a class exceeds the prescribed class size limit, the local school division shall notify the parent of each student in such class of such fact no later than 10 days after the date on which the class exceeded the class size limits. The bill requires such notification to describe the school division's plan to reduce the class size in order to conform with the relevant class size limit.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 139.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate. See Item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** To reduce from 30 to 29 the maximum class size in grades one, two, and three and reduce from 35 to 30 the maximum class size in grades four, five, and six, the Department of Education estimates additional state expenses of \$5.7 million in FY17 and \$5.5 million in FY18.

This bill also establishes a maximum class size of 30 students in grades six through 12 English classes and a maximum class size of 24 students in grades six through 12 science laboratory classes; however, the current Standards of Quality (SOQ) funding model does not include a mechanism to calculate the fiscal impact of these changes, and data sources are not readily available outside of the SOQ funding model to estimate these costs. Consequently, the state cost to implement these maximum class sizes is indeterminate at this time.

Local school divisions would be required to provide the local share of any additional state funds based on each division's local composite index; however, some divisions already may be meeting these maximum class sizes. Additionally, local school divisions may incur costs associated with class size reduction plans and parental notification in instances where classes

exceed the class size limits established by § 22.1-253.13:2, Code of Virginia. The actual fiscal impact to local school divisions is indeterminate at this time.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Education, local school divisions.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.