

Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB734

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

2. Patron: Obenshain

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Public charter schools.

5. Summary: Makes several changes to the provisions for the establishment and operation of public charter schools, including making changes and providing greater specificity regarding (i) the applicability of various laws, regulations, policies, and procedures to public charter schools; (ii) the contents of charter applications; and (iii) the procedure for executing charter contracts and the contents of such contracts. Subject to the results of a voter referendum on a related constitutional amendment, the bill permits the Board of Education, beginning January 1, 2017, to grant a charter application previously denied by the local school board upon finding that (a) the application meets the standards of a nationally recognized organization that primarily represents authorizers of charter schools, (b) the local community supports such application, and (c) the denial of such application by the local school board is not supported by the greater weight of the evidence provided in support of such application. The Board of Education may grant no more than five charter school applications per year and no more than one charter school application per school division per year.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The demand for new charter schools in Virginia as a result of this legislation is indeterminate; however, if the demand for new charter schools increases, the Department of Education may require additional administrative support to support such demand. Any potential fiscal impact to local school divisions is indeterminate.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: HB 3 provides for a referendum at the November 8, 2016 election to approve or reject a constitutional amendment to grant the Board of Education the authority to establish charter schools within the school divisions on the Commonwealth, subject to any criteria or conditions that the General Assembly may prescribe.