

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB505

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

2. Patron: Sturtevant

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Standards of Learning assessments; reporting results.

5. Summary: Requires the Department of Education to report the results of individual students on the Standards of Learning assessments to the local school divisions by June 30 of each year.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: There is no anticipated state fiscal impact as a result of this legislation. For tests administered online, school divisions receive all individual student Standards of Learning (SOL) test results prior to June 30; over 98 percent of all SOL tests are administered online. When school divisions administer paper and pencil tests in late June, it is possible that those test results are not reported to school divisions until July because of the time needed to ship and process the paper answer documents. Local school divisions have discretion as to when they provide assessment results to parents.

Currently, the spring SOL test window remains open until the last Friday in June. To ensure that school divisions receive all assessment results prior to June 30 of each year, the close of the spring SOL test window would have to be moved up approximately one to two weeks earlier in June so that any paper and pencil test answer documents can be shipped to the contractor in time to be processed, scored, and reported no later than June 30. Currently, answer documents are shipped to the contractor overnight from the school divisions; from the time the answer documents arrive at the contractor location, the contractor has 96 hours to process, score, and report the test results.

Similarly, the close of the Virginia Alternate Assessment Program (VAAP) and the Virginia Grade Level Alternative (VGLA) test administration windows would need to be moved up so that local scoring events can be held earlier in the school year, allowing final VAAP and VGLA test scores to be reported by June 30. The change in schedule for local scoring events may have a fiscal impact on local school divisions, which 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.