

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB 344

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Delegate Landes

3. **Committee:** Education and Health

4. **Title:** Establish policies regarding campus free speech

5. **Summary:** This amended bill requires that except as otherwise permitted by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; no public institution of higher education will deprive the freedom of any individual – including enrolled students, faculty, other institutional employees, and invited guests – to speak on its campus.

In addition, each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth is required to:

- establish and include in its student handbook, on its website, and in its student orientation programs policies regarding free speech that is constitutionally protected under the First Amendment and the process to report violations;
- develop materials on the established policies and notify any employee who is responsible for the discipline or education of enrolled students; and
- develop, post on its website, and submit a report, no later than December 1 of each year, to the Governor and Chairmen of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health regarding the institution's compliance with this legislation's requirements.

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

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary (see Section 8)

8. **Fiscal Implications:** Public institutions of higher education should be able to absorb any costs resulting from the implementation of this legislation using existing resources.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia's public institutions of higher education

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

11. **Other Comments:** None.

Date: 02/22/18

c: Secretary of Education