

Department of Planning and Budget

2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB829

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

2. Patron: Bagby

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Compulsory school attendance.

5. Summary: Clarifies that each parent of a school-age child in the Commonwealth is required to cause his child to attend school. Defines “attend” to include participation in educational programs and courses at a site remote from the school with the permission of the school and in conformity with applicable requirements. Current law requires each such parent to send his child to school.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: The language modifications made by this bill should provide judges with more options to address noncompliance with the compulsory attendance statute. As a result of the Virginia Supreme Court’s ruling in *Blake v. Commonwealth*, school divisions could charge noncompliant parents or guardians under § 18.2-371, which carries possible jail time. The proposed legislation could result in a cost avoidance if the state is not required to fund a court-appointed attorney for these offenses. In addition, it could avoid any state costs associated with possible jail time. Any such cost avoidance to the state is indeterminate.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Local school divisions, local governments, district courts (criminal fund)

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None