

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB367

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

2. **Patron:** Dunnavant

3. **Committee:** Education and Health

4. **Title:** Department of Education; student growth measurement system.

5. **Summary:** Directs the Department of Education to obtain an individualized student growth measurement system that tracks and analyzes student growth indicators. The bill requires that the student growth measurement system be implemented during the 2022-2023 school year.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No

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

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) currently is implementing a “vertical” scale that can be used with the current Standards of Learning (SOL) tests in reading and mathematics to measure growth. A vertical scale links tests within the same content area so that growth from one test to another can be measured. In this model, the SOL reading tests for grades three through eight are linked together and the SOL mathematics tests for grade three through Algebra I are linked together.

The vertical scale for mathematics was implemented with the new mathematics tests administered in school year 2018-2019. Department staff currently are determining how the vertical scale for mathematics will be used as a measure of growth for the 2020-2021 accreditation ratings and beyond. The vertical scale for reading will be implemented in conjunction with the new reading tests in school year 2019-2020.

Given the broad interpretation of the growth measurement system in the proposal, the vertical growth measure appears to meet the bill requirements if that growth measure includes student tracking and analytical capability. VDOE is using existing appropriation to support this implementation and does not anticipate an additional state impact from this proposal.

If a different type of growth measurement is required or one with additional student tracking or analytical capability beyond what VDOE is developing, VDOE would need to procure a compliant growth measurement system. Based on a cost of \$3-\$4 per student and projected fall membership counts in the Governor’s introduced 2020-2022 biennial budget (HB/SB 30)

for grades three through eight, DOE estimates that system would cost between \$1.8 million and \$2.3 million in FY 2021 and between \$1.8 million and \$2.4 million in FY 2022.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Education

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None