

1995 SESSION

LEGISLATION NOT PREPARED BY DLS
INTRODUCED

LD9840000

HOUSE BILL NO. 2601

Offered January 23, 1995

A BILL to amend § 22.1-253.13:3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to waiver of accreditation standards.

Patron—Jackson

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. Waiver of accreditation standards.—*The Board of Education shall establish guidelines for the granting of waivers of the accreditation standards where such waiver would facilitate an enhanced ability by a school system to promote better instructional programs. The guidelines shall include, but need not be limited to, assurances that the quality of the Commonwealth's educational program will be maintained and that the instructional programs for children will be favorably impacted, the rationale for requesting the waiver, a plan for the reinstatement of any waived requirements and an explanation of the fiscal impact. These guidelines shall not be subject to the Administrative Process Act (§ 9-6.14:1 et seq.).*

The Superintendent of Public Instruction may grant a waiver of the accreditation standards pursuant to the guidelines of the Board.

School boards may apply pursuant to such guidelines for waiver. Prior to applying for the waiver, the school board shall obtain public comment through a public hearing. The public hearing shall be held not less than ten days after reasonable notice to the public in a newspaper of general circulation in the school division.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall report by November 15, 1995, to the House Committees on Appropriations and Education and the Senate Committees on Finance and Education and Health on any waivers granted. The report shall include the number of school boards receiving waivers, the standards waived, the rationale for granting the waiver, and the fiscal impact.

2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.

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