

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1998 SESSION

CHAPTER 66

An Act to amend and reenact § 22.1-346 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

[S 397]

Approved March 13, 1998

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-346 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-346. Transfer of property; rights and duties of the Board of Education; supervision of schools; appointment and removal of officers and faculty; certain funding initiatives.

A. All of the real estate and personal property now existing and standing in the name of the board of visitors of the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall be transferred to and be under the control of the Board of Education. The Department of General Services shall cooperate with the Board in supervising the maintenance and repair of the real and personal property of the schools.

B. Any gift, grant, devise or bequest made prior to July 1, 1984, to the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Hampton or the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton shall be held by the Board of Education for the school to which made. The Board of Education shall have the power to take, hold, receive and enjoy any gift, grant, devise or bequest made hereafter to the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. Such gift, grant, devise or bequest shall be held for the school to which made for uses and purposes designated by the donor or if not designated for one of the schools or for a specific purpose, for the general purposes of any programs in either of the schools. The Board of Education shall also accept, execute and administer any trust in which it may have an interest under the terms of the instrument creating the trust.

C. The Board shall be charged with the operational control of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Hampton and the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton. *In exercising this operational control, the Board shall include, in any budget recommendations to the Governor for state funding for the several school divisions which may be related to educational technology or other programs appropriate for implementation within the two schools, state funding for such programs to be provided to the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.* However, the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind shall not be defined as school divisions for constitutional purposes. Supervision of the contracts and agreements of the board of visitors of the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind are hereby transferred to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The Board shall provide rules and regulations for the governance of the schools. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall administer, supervise and direct the activities and programs of the schools pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Board. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall appoint the officers and employees of each school subject to the provisions of Chapter 10 (§ 2.1-110 et seq.) of Title 2.1.