

Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB165

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Poisson

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Higher educational institutions; automatic admission to certain students

5. Summary: Directs the governing boards of public institutions of higher education to provide for the automatic acceptance of those resident students applying for admission who: (i) have graduated from a public or private high school in Virginia with a grade point average in the top 10 percent of such student's graduating class; and (ii) have completed 320 hours of community service in a program approved by the Secretary of Education, in the year preceding the academic year for which the student is seeking admission.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, see Item 8.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation changes the admission policies for the state's public colleges and universities by providing automatic admission to specific students, without regard to the enrollment capacity of individual state colleges and universities and other standards. If this program changes the ratio of in-state to out-of-state students for any of the public colleges and universities, general fund support might be required to offset the potential loss of out-of-state student revenues. Another potential fiscal impact would be the additional workload this legislation requires of the Office of the Secretary of Education. The Office of the Secretary of Education is not presently staffed to handle the approval, determination and definition of which community service programs would be deemed appropriate to meet the requirements of this legislation.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Secretary of Education, all state colleges and universities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: Based on the average daily membership provided by the Department of Education, the number of seniors enrolled in Virginia's public high schools are: FY2008 Actual: 84,895.25, FY2009 Projected: 85,427.23, FY2010 Projected: 85,965.47. These numbers do not include private school enrollments. Based on the public school numbers, 8,500 students annually would be eligible for this community service program. It is uncertain how many of these students would pursue the community service requirements to participate in this program. It is also not certain what methodology would be used to determine the distribution of eligible students to each of the public colleges or universities.

Date: 1/30/2008/RSA

C: Secretary of Education