

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2008 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB 538

House of Origin	<u>  X  </u>	Introduced	<u>    </u>	Substitute	<u>    </u>	Engrossed
Second House	<u>    </u>	In Committee	<u>    </u>	Substitute	<u>    </u>	Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Senator Obenshain

**3. Committee:** Education and Health

**4. Title:** Requiring first warning and emergency notification systems at public higher education institutions

**5. Summary:** This bill mandates that each public institution of higher education in Virginia must establish a comprehensive, prompt, and reliable first warning and emergency notification system for students, staff, and faculty by August 1, 2008.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate (see Section 8)

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** Given the tragic events at Virginia Tech last April, all of the Commonwealth's public higher education institutions currently have some level of early notification system. The cost of such systems was borne by the institutions within their existing budgets. For any notification systems that might not meet the criteria of this proposed legislation, there could be additional costs to the school.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia's public higher education institutions

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** For any institution whose notification system might not meet all of the proposed legislation's criteria, the August 1 deadline may be difficult to meet. A later deadline or the possibility of an extension being granted by either the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia or the Virginia Department of Emergency Management may be viable options.

**Date:** 1/17/2008 sas

**Document:** f:\sb538.doc