

Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB544

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

2. Patron: Colgan

3. Committee: Education and Health

4. Title: Provides eligibility for in-state tuition for the dependents of civilian personnel of the military

5. Summary: Provides that any civilian employees of the Department of Defense that are realigned to Virginia as a result of Base Realignment and Closure, and their dependents, shall pay the in-state tuition rate at the public institution of higher education in which they are enrolled.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is not likely that this bill would affect tuition and fee revenues for students whose parents or guardians are transferred out of state, as these students currently have domicile determined. The most likely impact is the revenue differential between in-state and out-of-state students for civilian personnel transferring into Virginia. The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency estimates that 19 students may be affected by this bill. Based on an average in-state/out-of-state tuition differential of \$600 per credit hour, and an estimated 30 credit hours per year, the average tuition revenue lost could be approximately \$342,000, spread among the schools enrolling these students.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Most likely, George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, Old Dominion University, Christopher Newport University, Norfolk State University, Tidewater Community College, and to a lesser degree, Virginia State University, as the geographic regions these colleges and universities are located in have the highest concentration of Department of Defense civilian personnel. Other colleges and universities may be affected to a lesser degree.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This language is similar to legislation by the state of Maryland language and is targeted towards students affected by BRAC-related job relocation to Virginia. Currently a family must establish domicile for at least one full year in order to gain in-state

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eligibility. The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency requested consideration for families moving into Virginia with college-ready students. The bill ties eligibility with parent's employment at a Virginia military base so the benefit can be lost and they would still need to establish domicile for a year in order to qualify for state financial aid. The beneficiary is only dependent spouse, and child of employee. This bill does not cover: (1) a new hire at the Virginia location; (2) active duty military (other provisions cover these students); (3) an employee changing jobs in order to move to Virginia; (4) employees moved from one Virginia location to another; (5) spouse or children who move in advance of the employee (the employee has to be reassigned). This bill is similar in nature to HB300, HB1239, and SB312.