

## Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB1575

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Englin

**3. Committee:** Education

**4. Title:** Public schools; antibullying measures.

**5. Summary:** Adds specificity to the codes of student conduct required of local school divisions in terms of how incidents of bullying, harassment, and intimidation are handled. The bill provides that teacher training in this area be required, and that incidents of bullying, harassment, and intimidation be reported to the division superintendent. The bill also requires that the codes of student conduct hold school administrators responsible for implementing the procedures outlined in the local policy.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This legislation requires local school boards to implement programs of professional development on bullying, harassment, and intimidation prevention for all instructional personnel. The bill provides a definition of “bullying, harassment, or intimidation” for the purposes of the section of the Code of Virginia being amended. This legislation does not establish any state requirement to provide additional resources to support the program; therefore, no state fiscal impact is anticipated.

This legislation also requires each school board to modify its code of student conduct to include “procedures to separate the perpetrators of such behavior from their targets in a way that ensures that the targets of such behavior are not effectively punished, including being deprived of benefits or opportunities that they otherwise would enjoy.” It is anticipated that developing such procedures could result in some additional administrative costs for local school divisions; however, it is assumed that any such costs could be absorbed within current resources.

The requirement itself involving the separation of the “perpetrators” from their “targets” could result in additional costs depending on the full intent of the legislation. If the separation is intended to be temporary, it is unlikely that school divisions would incur additional costs; however, if such a separation was deemed necessary on a permanent basis while continuing to enroll both students, it could generate additional costs for a school

division. At this time, it is not possible to predict where and when such incidents might arise or the solutions reached by divisions to address them. Therefore, any potential fiscal impact resulting from this requirement is unknown.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Board of Education and local school divisions.

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.

**Date:** 1/24/2011 dpbsbj

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