

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1496

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

2. Patron: Stolle

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: Provides reduced tuition at public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth for senior citizens.

5. Summary: Permits a senior citizen whose taxable income exceeded \$15,000 in the year preceding the year in which enrollment is sought to pay reduced tuition at a rate of 25 percent of the total cost for enrollment in courses as a full-time or part-time student for academic credit at a public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth if total student enrollment for the course or courses in which the senior citizen seeks enrollment has not reached 75 percent of the maximum course capacity as of the first day of the academic term.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No, as costs cannot be determined at this time.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Indeterminate, see item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: It cannot be determined how many senior citizens would actively seek enrollment at Virginia's public colleges and universities for reduced tuition. However, according to the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), allowing senior citizens to enroll based on 75 percent on the first day of the academic term could prevent degree seeking students from enrolling in required courses on the first day or subsequent registration days should the senior citizens take up available slots on a first come first serve basis. Additionally, the VCCS could be forgoing 75 percent tuition revenues from full pay students that are needed to support the cost of education (faculty, academic support, plant, etc.). Any lost revenue would need to be offset by general fund support, increasing tuition and fees or a combination of both to maintain the cost of education.

VCCS also foresees customer service conflicts with senior citizens who may have registered on-line for a course believing they can register for the course at the discounted rate, only to be removed from the course because it has exceeded 75 percent or is full with full pay students when they arrive on the first day of class. This would most likely also be the case at other colleges and universities.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: All state supported colleges and universities, however most likely the Virginia Community College System.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/18/13;

Document: HB1496.docx

C: Secretary of Education