

Department of Planning and Budget 2013 Fiscal Impact Statement - Revised

1. Bill Number: HB1777

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Filler-Corn

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Establishment of the Virginia Open Education Resources Council and Virginia Digital Open Source Textbook Library.

5. Summary: Establishes the Virginia Open Education Resources Council to (i) identify and acquire digital open source textbooks to be used in 50 undergraduate courses in public institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth and (ii) develop the Virginia Digital Open Source Textbook Library as the digital repository of such open source textbooks. The Council shall be staffed by one faculty member from each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 146.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2014	\$ 175,000	1	GF
2015	\$ 195,000	1	GF
2016	\$ 195,000	1	GF
2017	\$ 195,000	1	GF
2018	\$ 195,000	1	GF
2019	\$ 195,000	1	GF

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), this program could require (at least) one additional position as a project manager. The cost is estimated at \$100,000, including benefits. This project will require additional support of approximately \$50,000 to \$95,000 for administrative and technology costs associated with planning meetings of the council, travel, and setting up and maintaining the online archive. Additionally, consulting costs for technology support aspect of the program could require specialized expertise including web development, and most likely would incur additional costs.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, all state supported colleges and universities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: Many colleges and universities are currently utilizing electronic or digital textbooks, and are re-engineering courses with faculty to utilize these resources. For example, Virginia State University has been vigorously pursuing this practice to reduce costs for students.

Post Script: At the request of the Secretary of Education, SCHEV and the Virginia Community College System have assembled a committee made up of representatives from two and four year public post-secondary institutions across the state to address the issue of reducing textbook costs and, ultimately, recommending statewide structures for identifying and storing open educational resources to be used by institutions. The committee's work has resulted in two significant projects. The first is the Open and Digital Learning Resources Conference to be held at University of Mary Washington on March 7th, 2013. The second is a subcommittee that has been formed to work with Virginia Association of State College and University Purchasing Professionals (VASCUPP) on securing a statewide e-text contract to benefit all public institutions of higher education.

Date: 1/21/13

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C: Secretary of Education