

Department of Planning and Budget 2015 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1684

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: Surovell

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Standards of Learning assessments; waivers

5. Summary: The proposed legislation would require the Board of Education (BOE) to waive the Standards of Learning (SOL) assessment requirements for high school students who have taken an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) examination in the same subject area. The bill would not apply to SOL assessments that are required for the purpose of state or federal accountability. The bill also requires the Board to provide for the award of verified units of credit to high school students who have achieved a satisfactory score on an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate examination in lieu of a SOL assessment in the same subject area.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation would codify current BOE regulations. Currently, the Virginia Administrative Code allows the BOE to approve additional tests for the purpose of awarding verified credit when such tests meet certain minimum criteria. The Department of Education reviews and recommends substitute tests for verified credit(s) on an annual basis, and it accepts nominations from school divisions for additional tests to substitute for the SOL end-of-course tests. Nominations received annually are presented to the Board for approval prior to the following school year.

The BOE-approved list of substitute tests includes a variety of AP and IB tests as alternatives to the SOL with approximately 90 different exams offered in English, mathematics, science, and history/social science. There is no fiscal impact from the provisions of this legislation.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Board of Education, school divisions

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: None.

Date: 1/27/2015 dpb/smc

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