

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB740

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

2. Patron: Surovell

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Access to electronic textbooks and adequate connectivity.

5. Summary: Prohibits school boards from requiring the use of any electronic textbook in any course in grades six through 12 unless the school board adopts a plan to ensure that by July 1, 2019, (i) each student enrolled in such course will have access to a personal computing device capable of supporting such textbooks and (ii) the relevant school has adequate connectivity, which the bill defines as bandwidth of at least one megabit per second per student. The bill permits a local school board to establish a pilot program for the use of electronic textbooks at any secondary school in the local school division, provided that (a) each student at the secondary school has access to a personal computing device capable of supporting such textbooks, (b) each student at the secondary school has access to adequate connectivity, and (c) the secondary school is receiving federal funds pursuant to Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 or no more than five percent of the students in the local school division or 300 students, whichever is greater, participate in the pilot program. The Board of Education must annually develop, update, and distribute to each local school division a list of personal computing devices that comply with this section. The provisions of this act would not apply to any program established by the Henry County School Board prior to July 1, 2015.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

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

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any costs to annually develop, update, and distribute to each local school division a list of personal computing devices that comply with these requirements can be absorbed within existing Board of Education resources. Any potential fiscal impact to local school divisions is indeterminate.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.