

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB687

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: McQuinn

3. Committee: Education

4. Title: Virginia Public School Improvement Program.

5. Summary: Creates the Virginia Public School Improvement Program to offer maximum educational options and flexibility for parents, teachers, and students. The bill authorizes any local school board to designate or approve any public school within its school division to participate in the Program if (i) a majority of parents and teachers of students at the school have petitioned the school board to participate in the Program, (ii) it does not meet the requirements to be fully accredited, or (iii) the school's pass rates for English and mathematics are below the division-wide average. Local school boards would continue to receive state basic school aid funding for participating schools, and participating schools would be exempt from certain school division policies and state regulations but would have to meet Standards of Quality, Standards of Learning, Standards of Accreditation, and certain federal requirements. Participation in the Program can be rescinded (a) by petition of a majority of parents and teachers, (b) if the school makes application to operate as a charter school, (c) if the school violates the stipulated contract with the local school board, or (d) if students at a participating school fail to achieve satisfactory academic progress each year for two consecutive school years. The bill requires the Board of Education to establish guidelines to assist school boards in implementing the Program in the school division and provide technical assistance to school boards upon request.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

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

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that the Board of Education and the Department of Education can absorb any costs resulting from the provisions of this bill. Any cost to local school divisions is indeterminate.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill will allow schools participating in the Virginia Public School Improvement Program to operate free from specified school division policies and state regulations as determined and agreed to by the public school and the local school board. Any local school division obligations related to data submissions to the Department of Education (DOE) for the purposes of calculating state funding for education (Annual School Report, Student Records Collections, Required Local Effort and Required Local Match certifications, and others) could not be waived, as DOE requires this information to develop the Direct Aid to Public Education budget.