

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** SB1173

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

**2. Patron:** McPike

**3. Committee:** Finance

**4. Title:** Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program; eligibility.

**5. Summary:** Expands the definition of "Qualified survivors and dependents" eligible for benefits of the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program to the spouse or child of all veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States, Reserves of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the Virginia National Guard with at least a 90 percent permanent, service-related disability. Under current law, the spouse or child would be eligible for benefits only if the veteran's disability was incurred during military operations against terrorism, on a peacekeeping mission, as a result of a terrorist act, or in any armed conflict. Includes an enactment clause stating the provisions will not become effective unless an appropriation effectuating its purposes is included in the general appropriation act.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill would expand the population of students eligible for tuition waivers and stipends pursuant to the Virginia Military Survivors Program (VMSDP). It is not possible at this time to estimate how many additional students and prospective students would become eligible, but each additional student would represent lost tuition and fee revenue for institutions of higher education, and if sufficient additional general funds are not appropriated in the VMSDP, beneficiaries will not be able to receive the maximum stipend. At present, the 2018 Appropriation Act provides \$1,980,000 in fiscal year 2020 for the VMSDP.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia public institutions of higher education, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, Department of Veterans Services.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.