

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB723

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Bell

3. **Committee:** Passed both houses

4. **Title:** Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind; Board of Visitors to report to the Governor.

5. **Summary:** Requires that the Board of Visitors of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind be subject to the direction and supervision of the Governor. The bill repeals the existing responsibility for the Board, currently designated as a policy agency in the executive branch of state government, by the Secretary of Education. The bill excludes the Board of Visitors of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind from the definition of “executive branch agency” or “agency” under Chapter 20.1. of the Code with respect to the Virginia Information Technologies Agency. A second enactment clause requires the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind to consult with the Virginia Information Technologies Agency to develop a plan to independently provide information technology support for the school and to submit such plan to the Board of Visitors of the school no later than October 1, 2022. A third enactment clause provides that the provisions of the first enactment are not effective unless reenacted by the 2023 Session of the General Assembly.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** By making the Board of Visitors of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind responsible to the Governor instead of the Secretary of Education, the budget for the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind should be under the Executive Offices instead of the Office of Education. Because the third enactment clause provides that the provisions of the first enactment are not effective unless reenacted by the 2023 Session of the General Assembly, a budget amendment is not necessary during the 2022 Session of the General Assembly.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final, see Item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** By exempting the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind (VSDB) from Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) oversight, VSDB may experience a fiscal impact to independently provide information technology support for the agency and school. Any such impact is indeterminate at this time but should be identified in the report submitted by October 1, 2022.

Additionally, by exempting VSDB from VITA oversight, VITA would experience a revenue reduction of approximately \$300,000 per year, beginning in fiscal year 2024 if this bill is reenacted by the 2023 General Assembly, which is the current amount that VSDB pays to VITA for annual information technology costs.

Further, by making the Governor responsible for the direction and supervision of VSDB, the Governor's Office would be responsible for the day-to-day administrative affairs of VSDB. Such administrative affairs include, but are not limited to, addressing personnel issues that come to the cabinet level, covering budget exercises involving the cabinet, coordinating the state response to any emergency situations at the school, and addressing any cross-secretarial concerns coming from other agencies relating to accounting, procurement, or responding to audits. The Governor's Office may need additional staff to perform these administrative duties in fiscal year 2024 if this bill is reenacted by the 2023 General Assembly.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the Office of the Secretary of Education.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind, Virginia Information Technologies Agency, Secretary of Education, Office of the Governor

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None