



*Review of the Governor's Proposed
Budget Items in SB 30 for the
Department of Education, Central
Office*

*Presented to the Senate Finance Committee
Subcommittee on Education*

January 18, 2018

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

- **SB 30 as introduced includes both technical and policy items for the 2018-2020 DOE Central Office budget.**
- **This presentation provides an overview of twelve policy items proposed in SB 30 for DOE Central Office.**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

1. Provide state support for the DOE Office of Student Services (this office covers student health/discipline, school climate, military children, etc.):

- Provides GF support to better align funding sources to the work of this office, which supports both spec. ed. and non-spec. ed. students statewide.
- GF support for staff and programs will increase compliance with time & effort requirements under the federal IDEA (spec. ed.) program by providing state funding support for activities involving non-spec. ed. students; supports 50% of office costs.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$1,004,335 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

2. Adjust funding for computer adaptive test (CAT) revisions:

- Removes a portion of the funding provided in 16-18 to transition SOL tests to the CAT test format.
- Revised math and English SOL adopted by the BOE in 2016-2017 require development of additional CAT test items aligned to the revised standards. The remaining funding each year will be used to develop a sufficient number of CAT test items that are aligned to the revised math and English SOL.
- **This item reduces the base CAT funding in FY19 and FY20 by \$780,584, retaining \$1.55 million each year.**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

3. Automate the teacher licensure application process:

- Provides funding to automate the teacher license application process, currently a paper-based/manual process. This will create a more secure, two-way online process for applicants and staff, expedite in-take processing to increase time spent on actual licensure review, and allow real-time status updates and online fee payment.
- Not expected to reduce staffing needs of the licensure office given its current workload.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$552,500 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

4. Enhance funding for the Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program:

- Increases funding for the VKRP (operated at UVA) to develop a post-kindergarten assessment that will measure student growth in kindergarten. VKRP measures areas beyond the PALS literacy measure (e.g., math readiness, social skills, self-regulation).
- Divisions currently participating in VKRP (63), and those considering participation, have requested a spring assessment to provide fall to spring growth information, which can be used in evaluating the impact of instructional practices in kindergarten.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$275,000 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

5. Provide funding and positions to support environmental education:

- Provides funding and positions to coordinate environmental education efforts in Virginia. This function was previously housed in the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, but was eliminated in 2016. Environmental and educational organizations in Virginia restated the need for statewide coordination of environmental education efforts.
- Supports an instructional area that incorporates STEM and applied learning.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$250,000 each year; FY19 and FY20 GF Positions = 2.00 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

6. Enhance eMediaVA program funding:

- Increases funding in FY20 for digital content development, online learning, and related support services in this program currently operated by WHRO, which is available to school divisions at no cost.
- Digital resources made available under the program are correlated to the Standards of Learning.
- The funding will support increased statewide demand for the digital resources being made available under the program and restore a \$100,000 reduction from 16-18.
- **FY19 GF = \$0; FY20 GF = \$400,000**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

7. Support continued development of the school performance report card (“School Quality Profiles”):

- Provides one-time funding over the biennium to update the school performance report card to incorporate revisions to the Standards of Accreditation and reporting requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Various new indicators and metrics will need to be built into the report cards requiring additional technical development during the biennium.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$150,000 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

8. Support resources for school divisions to research educator misconduct:

- Provides school division access to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse to research educator misconduct (from licensure actions) when hiring, issuing licenses, etc.
- While school divisions conduct fingerprinting/social services checks, they don't have access to information on other states' licensure actions prior to hiring or license issuance. Because some misconduct cases don't result in criminal convictions shown in background checks, the Clearinghouse provides misconduct information resulting from prior licensure actions.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$78,084 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

9. Establish advisory council for digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy:

- Provides funding to establish/support an advisory council to promote the safe, ethical, and responsible use of media and technology by students in public schools, and recommend best practices for instruction in digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy.
- Provides funding for HB 199 which would create the Advisory Council under DOE.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$75,000 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

10. Support Virginia Preschool Initiative (VPI) local site visits and technical assistance:

- Provides funding for DOE to resume site visits to local VPI programs. This will help ensure local programs meet state guidelines and best practices for high-quality programs and allow on-site technical assistance. The funding will also support increased professional development for local VPI coordinators.
- Supports recent JLARC recommendation for DOE oversight role and facilitates replicating high quality programs.

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

10. Support VPI program site visits and technical assistance (con't.):

- Funding would support on-site visits on a four-year cycle (approx. 30 reviews per year).
- DOE currently conducts “desk reviews” of local VPI applications, self-studies, and improvement plans. Most monitoring and technical assistance is done remotely, with one local coordinator meeting per year.
- Without direct observation at VPI sites, implementation of local VPI plans and program quality cannot be verified, nor can site-based technical assistance be provided.

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

10. Support VPI program site visits and technical assistance (con't.):

- Current DOE staffing for VPI is 1.65 positions for overall program administration/technical assistance.
- **FY19 and FY20 GF = \$50,000 each year**

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

11. Continue development of student growth model:

- Modifies language to direct DOE to develop a growth scale for the existing SOL math and reading tests to facilitate school improvement and support state accountability and accreditation systems; **maintains base funding of \$500,000 in FY19 and FY20.**
- For the FY17 pilot, two contractors developed growth models that statistically predict a student's score in the next year. Growth was determined by whether the student's actual score exceeded the predicted score. It was determined these models were likely not scalable statewide at a sustainable cost and had other implementation limitations.

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

11. Continue development of student growth model:

- In FY18, DOE has begun researching an alternative growth model based on “vertical scaling” SOL math and reading tests across grades to determine a student’s annual growth (i.e., compare a student’s performance to their previous performance across grades).
- Development of the “vertical scales” growth model will continue this spring and into the 18-20 biennium, incorporating changes in the revised math and reading SOL content that will affect the development of the measure.

DOE Central Office Items in SB 30

12. Increase NGF Appropriation/Positions (two actions):

- Per Item 294.H. of Chp. 836, transfers from VDH to DOE the federal appropriation/positions supporting administration of the federal Summer Food Service and At-Risk Afterschool Meals Programs which transferred this year from VDH to DOE.
 - ✓ FY19 and FY20 Federal NGF = \$749,176 each year
 - ✓ FY19 and FY20 NGF Positions = 5.00 each year
- Increases DOE Indirect Cost appropriation for anticipated agency revenues and expenditures in the 2018-2020 biennium.
 - ✓ FY19 and FY20 NGF = \$432,203 each year