# ATTACHMENT C

# Legislative Report

# Provisions in the Proposed Appropriation Act

## Prepared by the Virginia Department of Education

## Division of Policy & Communications

## March 12, 2018

The General Assembly adjourned on March 10, 2018 without adopting an approved budget. Below are highlights of provisions in the Governor’s introduced budget impacting public elementary and secondary education, and related amendments proposed by the House of Delegates and the Senate. The Governor will call the General Assembly into special session to allow the House and Senate to resolve the differences among their budget proposals.

* Virginia Preschool Initiative. Provides $50,000 in FY19 & FY20 for VDOE to conduct site visits to VPI programs to ensure compliance with state requirements and provide technical assistance. *The House and Senate budgets include additional funding in response to JLARC’s recent Early Education report recommendations regarding VPI classroom observations and professional development. The House proposes an additional $650,000 in FY19 and $1.2 million FY20, the Senate proposes an additional $250,000 in FY19 and FY20.*
* Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program.Provides $275,000 in FY19& FY20 to develop and implement a post-kindergarten assessment to measure student growth at the conclusion of kindergarten. *This remains in the Senate budget. The House budget includes an additional $275,000 and requires all kindergartners to be assessed.*
* Performance Assessments in History/Social Science.The Senate budget includes an amendment that would prohibit verified credits in history/social science from being awarded for successful completion of a performance assessment. Verified credits in history/social science could be earned only by successful completing of end-of-course SOL tests, Board-approved substitute tests. Locally-awarded verified credits could also be earned when a student fails to pass the SOL test. $300,000 is provided in FY19 & FY20 for the development of SOL tests to align with the 2015 history/social science SOL. *Similar provisions are not included in the Governor’s introduced or the House versions of the budget. We have been working on an amendment that would instead provide $450,000 in FY19 & FY20 and allow for the development of a statewide performance assessment that could be used to confer verified credit in history/social science, as was provided in the* [*House substitute version of SB 969*](http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?181+ful+SB969H1+hil)*.*
* Automation of the Teacher Licensure process. Provides $552,000 in FY19 & FY20 to automate the existing manual licensure process. *The Senate version of the budget instead provides $1 million in funding to complete this project in FY19, and reduces funding for the licensure office by $75,000 in FY20 efficiencies by assuming efficiencies from the new automated process. The House version eliminates all funding.*
* Enhancements to the School Quality Profiles system.Provides $150,000 in FY19 & FY20 to update the system to reflect the revised Standards of Accreditation and ESSA requirements. *This remains in the Senate budget. This is eliminated in the House budget.*
* Principal retention and recruitment.Provides $500,000 in FY19 & FY20 to support recruitment in school divisions with a memorandum of understanding with the Board. *The House budget eliminates this proposal. The Senate budget provides only $300,000 in FY19 & FY20.*
* One full-time principal in each elementary school.Provides $7.7 million in FY20 to support the state share of one principal in each elementary school, in support of the Board’s Standards of Quality recommendations. *This is eliminated in the House and Senate versions of the budget.*
* At-Risk Add-On funds.Provides an additional $7.1 million in FY20 in At-Risk Add-On funds. *This remains in the Senate budget. The House version eliminates this additional funding. The House and Senate budgets propose allowing school divisions to use these funds for additional purposes.*
* Lottery Per-Pupil payments.The House proposes an addition $26 million in FY19 and $36.4 million in FY20 for per-pupil lottery fund payments. This would increase the per-pupil payments from $274/pupil in FY18 to $342/pupil by FY20. *This was not included in the Governor’s introduced or the Senate version of the budget.*
* Salary Increase for SOQ Positions.Provides $51.3 million for the state’s share of a one-time 2% salary increase for recognized SOQ positions, effective December 1, 2019. *The Senate version eliminates the salary increase. The House version provides an additional $36.4 million to advance the pay raise to July 1, 2019.*
* No-loss funding to school divisions.Provides $11.5 million in FY 19 to ensure no division loses state funding in FY19 as compared to its FY18 distribution. *This was eliminated in the House and Senate versions of the budget.*
* Small school division enrollment loss payments.The FY18 budget included $6.1 million in payments for small school divisions that have experienced high rates of enrollment losses. This was eliminated in the Governor’s introduced budget. *The House budget proposes maintaining these payments at $6.1 million in FY19. The Senate budget proposes similar payments at $5 million in FY19.*