

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2120  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218-2120

SUPTS. MEMO NO. 157  
July 11, 2008

INFORMATIONAL

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Billy K. Cannaday, Jr.  
Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Procurement and Pricing Information for Textbooks  
Approved by the Virginia Board of Education  
Legislative Changes as of July 1, 2008

The 2008 Virginia General Assembly approved Senate Bill 356, House Bill 137, and House Bill 354 to amend and reenact Sections [22.1-238](#), [22.1-239](#), [22.1-241](#), [22.1-242](#), and [22.1-243](#) of the *Code of Virginia*. These sections of the *Code* relate to the approval of textbooks, contracts with publishers, and the distribution of textbooks and consumable materials.

The legislative changes may be reviewed at the following website: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?081+ful+CHAP0663>. Also, the full text of these amendments to the *Code of Virginia* are highlighted in the attachment to this memorandum.

The legislative changes are intended to accomplish the following: 1) to eliminate provisions which are no longer needed because of statewide uniform procurement laws; 2) to reorganize provisions for clarity; 3) to require local school boards to develop a policy ensuring consumable materials are furnished to students who are unable to afford them; and 4) to permit private schools within a school division to purchase from a local school board textbook contract with permission from the affected local school board and the affected publisher. Furthermore, the law now requires the Board of Education to publish a list of all approved textbooks on its website and to list the publisher and current lowest wholesale price of such textbooks.

Effective July 1, 2008, the Department reorganized sections of its Web page and created the following site to provide technical assistance to local school boards regarding the procurement and pricing of textbooks:  
[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/mat\\_procurement\\_main.html](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/mat_procurement_main.html).

If you have any questions regarding these amendments to the *Code of Virginia*, please do not hesitate to contact Michelle Vucci, director of policy, at (804)

371-0558 or at [michelle.vucci@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:michelle.vucci@doe.virginia.gov), or Wiley Rowsey, director of procurement, at (804) 225-3576 or at [wiley.rowsey@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:wiley.rowsey@doe.virginia.gov), or Dr. Felicia Dyke, director of middle and high school instruction at (804) 225-2651 or at [felicia.dyke@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:felicia.dyke@doe.virginia.gov).

BKcJr/MMV/kfg

Attachment

- a. [Full Text of Legislative Changes](#) (PDF)