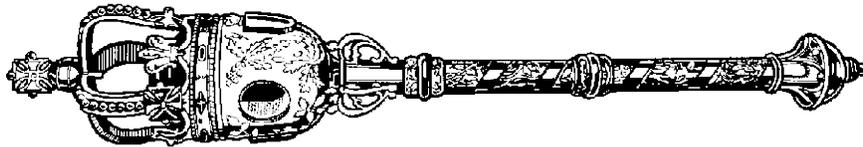


*Report of the
House Appropriations
Subcommittee*

on

*Elementary & Secondary
Education*



House Bill 1800

February 10, 2021

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE
on
ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The Elementary & Secondary Education Subcommittee is pleased to present a budget that provides \$355.5 million in additional direct aid for public schools that focuses on protecting school employees from layoffs and furloughs, providing meaningful teacher compensation, and addressing learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In late December, Congress passed its new COVID relief package, providing \$1.0 billion in K-12 aid to Virginia. These funds were not available to the Governor when he developed his budget. Even after recognizing these newly available funds we were able to increase aid for public schools by \$127.0 million above the Governor's proposal.

This year many families sent their children to private schools or established learning pods instead of using public schools, and many deferred enrolling their five-year olds in kindergarten. This resulted in 3.5% fewer students this fall than projected – and a corresponding loss of state funding. We know most of these students will be back as things return to normal – and we will need our teachers to be there when they return. Our budget proposes \$429.5 million in No Loss payments that keeps local school division budgets whole – and prevents layoffs or furloughs of our educator workforce.

Mr. Chairman, our subcommittee also recognized the hard work of our teachers as they have navigated a challenging, unprecedented pivot in how we educate our children amidst a pandemic. We also recognized that the average teacher's salary in Virginia is 17% below the national average. Our budget provides \$231.7 million for a 5% pay increase for our educators –

almost three times the compensation package in the introduced budget. Over the last 20 years, the state budget has never included a teacher compensation package this significant, and this investment will make real progress toward meeting the General Assembly's goal of compensating our teachers at the national average.

In addition, our budget includes \$13.9 million to recognize regional variations in labor market costs by partially restoring the Cost of Competing Adjustment for Northern Virginia localities to pre-recession levels, and providing an adjustment for the Eastern Shore – where school divisions struggle to compete with higher teacher salaries in Maryland.

Our proposal includes over \$120.0 million to address the impact COVID-19 has had on student performance. We know the virtual learning environment has left many of our students behind, and we will need to work hard to bring them back up to grade level.

This includes \$51.1 million for school divisions to set up summer school programs, and provide remediation, tutoring, and mental health supports. These funds would be available this fiscal year – and would be distributed to help school divisions with greater proportions of at-risk students. The divisions would be able to retain any amounts not spent prior to July 1 to continue these efforts in FY 2022.

Another \$30.0 million would be provided to create innovative programs based on recommendations from the state's remediation and recovery task force, and \$26.6 million is included for additional school counselors needed to support our students – based on legislation passed during the 2020 session.

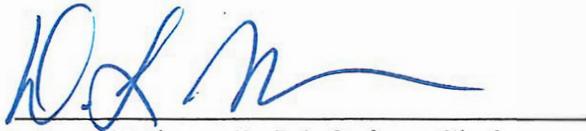
In addition, \$6.5 million will allow some of our older students with disabilities to attend high school for one more year, as their final year of transition to life after high school was disrupted by school closures.

Finally, \$8.8 million would be provided to begin transitioning some of our high stakes SOL tests into a system that will help determine which students need additional help at the beginning of the year, and measure how students grow academically throughout the year.

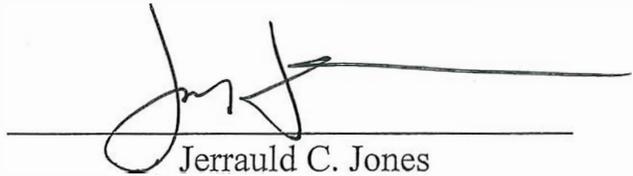
Before I conclude, I'd like to applaud Madam Speaker for her proposal to expand access to child care subsidies during the pandemic, and am pleased to announce that our budget includes over \$60.0 million to remove a barrier preventing many parents across the Commonwealth from returning to work.

Mr. Chairman – I thank the subcommittee members, and look forward to continuing work to strategically invest to help our schools recover and reopen in the coming months. I hope it is the pleasure of the subcommittee to adopt this report.

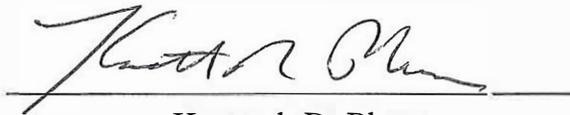
Respectfully Submitted by the House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Elementary & Secondary Education:



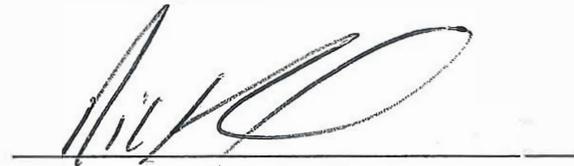
Delores L. McQuinn, Chair



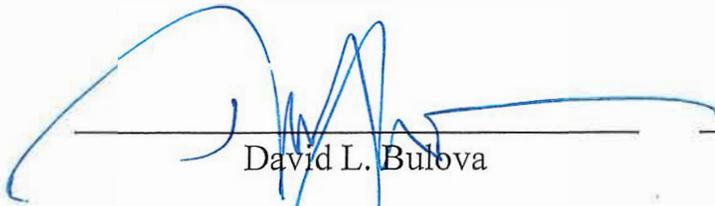
Jerrauld C. Jones



Kenneth R. Plum



L. Nick Rush



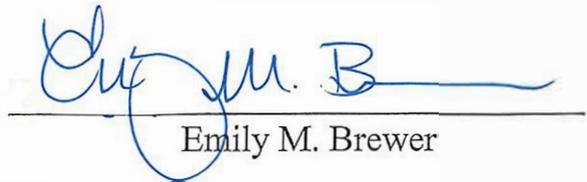
David L. Bulova



Glenn R. Davis, Jr.



Chris L. Hurst



Emily M. Brewer

HB 1800 Amendments	2020-22 BIENNIAL TOTAL		
	General	Nongeneral	FTE
	Fund	Fund	

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Department of Education, Central Office Operations

HB 2206 Expand Child Care Subsidy Program (FY 2021)		\$52,458,428	
HB 2027 - Growth Assessments in Grade 3-8		\$8,750,000	
HB 2299 - Recruitment and Retention of Special Education Teachers	\$395,991		3.0
CTE Resource Center Database Replacement	\$208,000		
Plan for Monitoring School Division Compliance with State Standards	\$180,000		
HB 2299 - IEP Training Module & Post-Secondary Transition Planning	\$105,000		
Convert Digital Content & Online Learning funding into Direct Grant	(\$1,000,000)		
Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program Implementation Report		Language	
Implement JLARC Recommendations: K-12 Special Education in Virginia		Language	
Private Special Education Day School Data Collection and Reporting		Language	
Restraint and Seclusion Regulations in Private Special Education Day Schools		Language	
School Improvement Program Plan		Language	
Special Education and Differentiated Instruction - Training & Teacher Prep		Language	

Direct Aid to Public Education

Compensation Adjustment - 5.0 Percent in FY2022	\$151,664,434		
Learning Loss Supplemental Payments		\$51,072,241	
Increase Infrastructure & Operations Per Pupil Payments	\$30,028,152		
COVID-19 Learning Loss Remediation and Recovery Grants		\$30,000,000	
Cost of Competing Adjustment	\$13,227,009		
Temporary Extension of Special Education Eligibility		\$6,500,000	
eMediaVA	\$1,000,000		
Alleghany County - Covington School Division Consolidation	\$582,000		
Blue Ridge PBS	\$350,000		
Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center	\$332,000		
Technical: Literacy Lab - VPI Minority Educator Fellowship	\$300,000		
Active Learning Grants	\$250,000		
Technical - Linwood Holton Governor's School	\$145,636		
HB 2019 - Purchase Albuterol and Valved Holding Chambers for Public	\$120,000		
Metropolitan Junior Baseball League	\$100,000		
Direct Gray Machine Revenues to No Loss Payments	(\$30,000,000)	\$30,000,000	
Update Lottery Proceeds Revenue Estimate	(\$23,200,005)	\$23,200,000	
Cost of Competing Adjustment: Eastern Shore	(\$2,113,055)		
Technical - School Meals Expansion	(\$2,500,000)		
VPI Per Pupil Amounts - 10% Increase	(\$11,119,673)		
Technical - Virginia Preschool Initiative	(\$15,897,461)		
Adjust No Loss Funding	(\$19,002,425)		
Calculate FY 2021 No-Loss Payments Based on ESSER II Distributions	(\$64,685,038)		
Prioritize VPI Flexible Funding for Four-Year-Old Children		Language	
Review Funding for State Operated Programs in Juvenile Detention Facilities		Language	
Governor's Schools Diversity Goals - Publish Online		Language	
Full-Time Multidivision Online Providers - School Quality Profiles		Language	

Department of Social Services

HB 2206 Expand Child Care Subsidy Program (FY 2021)		\$9,647,528	
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Central Appropriations

State COVID-19 Relief Funds		Language	
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Total Subcommittee Amendments:

\$29,470,565	\$211,628,197	3.0
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