Department of Planning and Budget 2025 General Assembly Session State Fiscal Impact Statement

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Bill Number: HB2118 **Patron:** Keys-Gamarra

Bill Title: Department of Education; public school accountability; delayed implementation and review

of revised public school accountability system; report; emergency.

Bill Summary: Directs the Department of Education to delay for a period of one year the implementation of the revised public school accountability system adopted pursuant to applicable Board of Education regulations in order to conduct a review of and establish a stakeholder advisory committee to solicit input on such revised public school accountability system for the purpose of ensuring that such accountability system is designed to achieve fair, transparent, and actionable results aimed at improving student growth and learning outcomes across the Commonwealth. The bill requires the Department to, by April 1, 2026, (i) publish a report on the process and findings of the review conducted in accordance with the provisions of the bill and (ii) submit to the Governor, the Senate Committee on Education and Health, and the House Committee on Education a plan for modifying and implementing the revised public school accountability system that incorporates the findings of the review conducted and the input from the stakeholder advisory committee established in accordance with the provisions of the bill. The bill contains an emergency clause.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** 120

Explanation: The Department of Education would require additional one-time funding to support the

reporting requirement in the bill.

Fiscal Summary: The Department of Education estimates a one-time cost of \$53,040 general fund in FY26.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
201 (DOE)	\$0	\$53,040	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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TOTAL	\$0	\$53,040	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Analysis: This bill would require the Department of Education (DOE) to conduct a review of and establish a stakeholder advisory committee on the revised public school accountability system and to publish a report by April 1, 2026 on this review. DOE estimates that additional staff would be required at a total cost of \$53,040 one-time in FY26. This is based on an assumption of 1040 hours of work at \$51 per hour.

Other: This bill is similar to SB979S1. SB979S1 includes a clause that requires DOE to submit to US DOE amendments to its state plan pursuant to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). DOE notes that if US DOE does not approve the amendments to the ESSA plan, non-implementation of the approved accountability plan

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(School Performance and Support Framework) would violate federal law and could result in sanctions and withholding of Virginia's federal education funds.

Item 120 of HB1600/SB800 includes \$50 million general fund to provide infrastructure, technical training, and evidence-based supports to public schools and \$1.25 million general fund for math, literacy, and science instructional assistance for public schools based on the School Performance and Support Framework.