

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 1/22/2026 9:59 AM

ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB287

Patron: Simonds

Bill Title: Institutions of higher education; eligibility for in-state tuition for citizens of federally recognized Virginia tribes.

Bill Summary: Makes any non-Virginia student who is a member or citizen of a federally recognized tribe and who is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program eligible for in-state tuition. The bill also allows the governing board of any public institution of higher education to charge in-state tuition to such students enrolled in a graduate or professional degree program. This is a recommendation of the Commission on Updating Virginia Law to Reflect Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: None

Explanation: This bill may result in an indeterminate revenue reduction for public institutions of higher education. It's expected institutions would absorb this impact.

Fiscal Summary: Most responding institutions anticipate a small to moderate fiscal impact due to a reduction in tuition revenue, as these non-Virginia students would pay in-state tuition rates instead of out-of-state tuition rates. The overall impact to public institutions is indeterminate since it is difficult to accurately estimate the number of qualifying students. The impact will vary between institutions due to differences in eligible student population size and the tuition rates at each institution. Some responding institutions indicate that there would be no fiscal impact.

Other: This fiscal impact statement is preliminary and based on feedback received from public institutions of higher education as of the date of publication.