

Department of Planning and Budget 2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB1329

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** McClellan

3. **Committee:** Passed both houses

4. **Title:** Board of Education; creation and maintenance of Virginia Parent Data Portal.

5. **Summary:** Requires the Board of Education, on or before July 1, 2025, to create and maintain the Virginia Parent Data Portal that, among other things, (i) displays individualized student assessment data on all state-supported assessments, as that term is defined in the bill, (a) in a format that shows both current and cumulative data over time and (b) within 45 days of a state-supported assessment window closing for each state-supported assessment; (ii) provides a description of the purpose of each state-supported assessment, an explanation of how to interpret student data on each state-supported assessment, and a comparison of a student's performance on each state-supported assessment with the performance of the student's school, the student's school division, and the Commonwealth; (iii) is viewable from a mobile device in addition to a desktop computer; (iv) complies with relevant privacy standards and enables school division personnel to manage and restrict user access to students and their parents; and (v) provides functionality to enable divisions to upload additional, non-state-supported assessment data. The bill requires the Board and the Department of Education to provide certain guidance and technical assistance to local school divisions on professional development for principals and teachers in parent engagement on and interpretation of student assessment data available through the Portal and requires each school board to annually provide high-quality professional development to principals and teachers on such topics. A second enactment clause provides that the provisions of the first enactment shall not become effective unless reenacted by the 2024 Session of the General Assembly. The bill also establishes a work group for the purpose of advising the Board of Education on the implementation of the Virginia Parent Data Portal.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 129.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final, see item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The bill establishes a work group in fiscal year 2024 to advise the Board of Education on the criteria for and process of procuring the goods and services necessary to implement the Virginia Parent Data Portal. If the Department of Education (DOE) is required to support travel and meal costs of work group members, DOE estimates a

need for \$10,000 in one-time additional state funding to support the meetings and work of this work group. These costs would be less if meetings are virtual. Additionally, the bill requires the work group to submit a report containing its findings and any recommendations to the Board of Education and the General Assembly by November 1, 2023. DOE notes that several bills have been introduced by the 2023 General Assembly that require DOE to issue a report to the Board of Education or the General Assembly by November 1, 2023. If several of these proposals are adopted, DOE may require additional state support above what is estimated in fiscal impact statements in order to meet all deadlines.

This version of the bill delays enactment of the provisions requiring DOE to implement a Virginia Parent Data Portal to July 1, 2025, pending reenactment by the 2024 General Assembly Session. If reenacted in the 2024 General Assembly Session, this bill would require the DOE to contract with a vendor to host an online Virginia Parent Data Portal. While similar portals exist at a smaller scale for local school divisions, it is likely that a new system will need to be developed in order to establish a statewide portal. DOE estimates it would require \$3.0 million in one-time startup costs to contract with a vendor in fiscal year 2025.

Any platform will also have annual licensing fees. Based on a current licensing rate of \$1.50 per student and an estimated fiscal year 2024 fall membership of 1,227,546 students, DOE estimates an annual ongoing cost of approximately \$1,800,000 beginning in fiscal year 2026.

DOE estimates they would need five additional positions to support the portal, including a data specialist, a system specialist, a security specialist, and two customer support technicians at an annual cost of \$677,182, beginning in fiscal year 2025, including salary, benefits, and technology.

At this time, based on the requirements of the first enactment, DOE estimates an additional state cost of \$3.7 million in fiscal year 2025 and \$2.5 million in fiscal year 2026 and subsequent years. Any actual state cost depends on the recommendations of the work group and reenactment by the 2024 Session of the General Assembly.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Board of Education, Department of Education

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: A typical procurement and development process takes approximately 18 months. If the bill is reenacted and funding is provided July 1, 2024, the earliest the system could be operational is January 1, 2026.

This bill is identical to HB1629..