

April 17, 2002, Reconvened (Veto) Session: General Assembly Actions on the Governor's Proposed Amendments to the 2002-2004 Biennial Budget (HB/SB 30 as Adopted)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CENTRAL OFFICE BUDGET

Restore Funding for Two Best Practice Centers

Governor's Proposed Amendment - This amendment provides \$585,622 in fiscal year 2003 and \$718,519 in fiscal year 2004 to restore two of the eight Governor's Best Practice Centers. One of the centers will serve Southwest Virginia and the other will serve Southside Virginia. The funding provides for three positions per center.

General Assembly Action - Adopted Governor's Amendment.

Review of Services for Students at Schools for the Deaf and the Blind to Determine Closure Recommendation

Governor's Proposed Amendment - This language amendment provides for the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to develop a plan for consolidating services for the deaf, blind, and multi-handicapped students served at Staunton and Hampton, based on an objective review of the fiscal and programmatic requirements of the schools and students. The adopted budget requires a plan for the closure of the Hampton school. This amendment allows the study results to determine which school should be recommended for closure.

General Assembly Action - Rejected Governor's Amendment. The budget language adopted during the regular session is retained.

Fully Fund Bonuses for National Board of Professional Teaching Standards Certifications

Governor's Proposed Amendment - This amendment provides \$645,000 in fiscal year 2004 to fully support the projected cost of national certification bonuses based on the projected number of teachers earning that certification. In fiscal year 2004, 275 teachers are projected to be eligible for the continuation grant of \$2,500 with 198 teachers projected to be eligible for the initial \$5,000 grant.

General Assembly Action - Adopted Governor's Amendment.

DIRECT AID TO PUBLIC EDUCATION BUDGET

Restore Funding for At-risk Program

Governor's Proposed Amendment - This amendment restores \$3.2 million in fiscal year 2003 to fully fund school division entitlements for the At-Risk program. The adopted budget reduced funding for this program by seven percent in fiscal year 2003.

General Assembly Action - Rejected Governor's Amendment.

Restore Funding for the Jobs for Virginia Graduates Program

Governor's Proposed Amendment - This amendment restores \$325,000 in fiscal year 2003 for the Jobs for Virginia Graduates Program.

General Assembly Action - Rejected Governor's Amendment.

Restore Funding for An Achievable Dream

Governor's Proposed Amendment - This amendment adds \$125,000 in fiscal year 2003 for An Achievable Dream, which provides enhanced educational opportunities for at-risk students. This funding will be provided to the Newport News School Division.

General Assembly Action - Adopted Governor's Amendment.

Provide Funding for the Virginia Career Education Foundation

Governor's Proposed Amendment - This amendment provides \$79,774 in fiscal year 2003 to establish the Virginia Career Education Foundation. This center is a not-for-profit organization to promote career, technical, and vocational education in Virginia's public schools. The foundation will use this seed money to leverage private funding, as well as funding from other major foundations.

General Assembly Action - Adopted Governor's Amendment.