



Fund Instructional Aide Positions within Public Schools

Localities have been paying a disproportionate amount. This needs to change!

Amendments

- HB30: [Item 137 #17h](#) (Plum); [Item 137 #18h](#) (Keam)
- SB30: [Item 137 #12s](#) (McClellan)

Background

Currently, more than 21,000 teacher aides are employed by Virginia school divisions. However, only a small number (2,800) of Kindergarten and Special Education teacher aides are recognized and funded under the Standards of Quality (SOQ).

What the amendments accomplish

These proposed amendments provide an additional \$160.2 million in the first year and \$167.4 million in the second year for the State's share of funding for instructional aide positions. This is based on a ratio of total Kindergarten through seventh grade instructional aides to total Kindergarten through seventh grade teachers. Currently, instructional aide positions are only funded for kindergarten and special education.

Why VML supports these amendments

- Teacher aides are a vital resource in the classroom. They provide help one-on-one and for small groups of students as needed. They assist teachers with other duties and provide additional help in specific areas of a school.
- The State has not recognized the full number of positions needed for a school division to function. As a result, localities have been picking up a disproportionate amount of the cost of instructional aide positions.

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