



### Eliminate the K-12 Support Cap

This “temporary” cap has been around for 13 years and is hurting schools. It’s long past time to remove it!

#### Amendments

- SB30: [Item 137 #9s](#) (Barker)
- HB30: [Item 137 #12h](#) (Kory); [Item 137 #21h](#) (Reid)

#### Background

The 2009 General Assembly reduced funding for many programs in response to the Great Recession. One of the programs affected was state assistance for instructional aide positions under the Standards of Quality. Specifically, a “temporary” support cap was placed on these positions.

#### What these amendments would accomplish

The proposed budget amendments would provide \$419.2 million in FY23 and \$430.5 million in FY24 to help offset the cost to fund instructional aide positions as recognized but only partially funded under the Standards of Quality. By removing the support cap, the number of positions to be fully funded would be increased based on the linear weighted average for positions per pupil and funded salaries.

#### Why VML supports these amendments

- After 13 years, the “temporary” support cap is still in place, placing an increased burden on local government budgets to pay for, and the ability of school boards to recruit and retain, much-needed instructional aides.
- Communities across the Commonwealth face teacher and instructional aide retention issues. Removing the support cap and restoring state funding for these positions would help ensure adequate numbers of instructional aides in public schools.

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