Report on Governor, House, and Senate Amendments to the
2008-10 Appropriation Act (HB1600/SB850)
Language Changes

Sources of Information


The University’s Office of State Governmental Relations maintains the most recent analysis of the Budget Bill and the 2009 General Assembly Session at http://www.virginia.edu/governmentalrelations/.

Compensation and Benefits
July 1, 2009/November 25, 2009 Salary Increase – Governor eliminates planned increase for faculty and staff. (Item 472, page 514)

State Contribution Rates – Governor proposes state contribution rates at:
- Group Life Insurance Program – 0.79%, down from 0.82%.
- VSDP – 0.8%, down from 1.79%.
- Retiree health insurance credit – 1.0%, down from 1.18%. (Item 472, page 519).

Long-Term Care Coverage Program – Governor closes the employer-paid VSDP long-term care program to new members and gives each participant a one-time election to continue coverage on a participant-paid basis. Senate and House restore the program, but also makes changes to the VSDP Short Term Disability Program to bring it “in-line with best practices prevalent in private sector”. (Item 472, page 520)

Terminated Employees and VRS – Governor provides language that says a terminating agency is not required to pay VRS for enhanced retirement benefits, but the cost of involuntarily separated employees will be factored into VRS contribution rates, effective 6/30/09. (Item 472, page 520)

Department of Employee Dispute Resolution – Governor includes language that, effective July 1, 2009, this department will be administered by the Department of Human Resource Management. House reverses this action. (Item 77, page 73)

Human Rights Council - Governor includes language that, effective July 1, 2009, this department will be administered by the Department of Labor and Industry. Senate reverses this action. (Item 87, page 83)

Capital Outlay
Department of General Services (DGS) – Governor requires DGS to produce a report to review and detail administrative expenses, revenue sources, and financial obligations of the Division of Real Estate
Services. The report, due 7/15/09, shall include a plan for reducing fees assessed to agencies and institutions by 15% in FY10. (Item 79, page 75)

NGF Swap for Debt – Governor replaces University and Medical Center NGF for state-funded debt for two projects: Alderman Road Housing ($8.9 million) and Medical Center Facilities ($40 million). (Item C-63.06 and C-63.07, page 560)

GF Swap for Debt – Governor restores any amounts reverted from cash in 08-09 with debt proceeds for Ruffin Hall (16283), Gilmer Teaching Labs (16788), the Information Technology Engineering Bldg planning (17476), and Wise’s Drama Blg (16830). Also replaces cash with debt in FY10 (available July 1, 2009) related to the Couric Cancer Center (17155). (Item C-182, page 600-602)

Advancing Projects Authorized for Planning in 2008 - Senate adds language stating that all capital projects authorized for detailed planning in Chapter 1, 2008 GA Session may proceed from preliminary working drawings to detailed working drawings; projects authorized for preplanning may proceed to preliminary working drawings; any required NGF funds are appropriated; and NGF may be reimbursed from any funds appropriated for construction upon project completion. House has similar language in the New Cabell Hall and Ruffner Hall planning authorizations. (Item C-178.10, page 589)

OOS Capital Fee – Senate adds a requirement that the OOS capital fee be increased from $2/credit hour to $6 credit hour to help compensate for capital authorized during 2008. For UVa, we must transfer an additional $1.52 million, requiring an increase in the OOS capital fee from the current level of $105 per student annually to $315 per student annually. Wise must transfer an additional $15,600 annually. (Item 280, page 287)

Other Higher Ed
IS:OOS Mix – House introduces language requiring SCHEV to report the rolling 3-yr average of nonresident undergraduate students as a percentage of all undergraduates. For all institutions (except NSU, VSU, and VMI) where the current on-grounds undergraduate non-resident percentage exceeds 30%, institutions may not increase the overall proportion of non-resident undergraduates. These institutions must also reserve 70% of all new first-year slots for resident undergraduate students and 80% of all new transfer slots for resident undergraduate students. (Item 4-0.01, page 622)

Aerospace Engine Manufacturer Incentive Senate reduces by $1.3 million (15% of the original $9.4 million) the incentive related to the location of Rolls Royce in central Virginia. (Item 473, page 524)

Higher Education Restructuring – Governor has introduced, in conjunction with feedback from institutions of higher education, a number of language changes related to the assessment of institutional performance. Senate adds that the Director of DPB, with the comptroller and management agreement institutions will develop uniform reporting requirements for revenue and expenditure data. (Item 4-9.00, page 686 – 691).
Reporting Requirements - Senate introduces language to require higher ed institutions, the Secretary of Finance, the Secretary of Education, and the Director of DPB to identify a list of reporting requirements that the Governor may consider suspending. Findings are due to the money committee chairs by November 1, 2009. House introduces similar language and includes several specific reports to suspend, including Intercollegiate Athletics Receipts and Disbursements; Usage of State-Assigned and State-Owned Vehicles, Organizational Memberships, and Generalist Initiative. (Item 4-8.01, page 684)

Embryonic Stem Cell Research – House adds language to prohibit state funding of embryonic stem cell research, but permits the research by entities receiving state funds. The House also prohibits the use of state funding for research on cells or tissues derived from induced abortions on humans. (Item 4-0.01, page 622)

Interest on Educational and General Balances – Governor reduces general fund appropriation since amount due to level 3 institutions are actually non-general fund revenues earned by the institutions, deposited to the state, and held in escrow on behalf of the institutions. House reduces the appropriation to approximate actual interest earnings; no impact to UVa as we’ll get the interest we place into escrow. (Item 467, page 507)

Financial Aid and Withdrawn Student – Governor amends language to state that rather than following tuition refund policy at particular school, an institution will calculate the unearned portion of the aid based on the percentage used for the federal Return to Title IV program purposes. (Item 4-5.01a.d, page 664)

Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program – Governor stipulates that the Department of Education will make payments on behalf of scholarship recipients directly to the institution of higher education where the student is enrolled. (Item 139, page 135).

Optometry Scholarships – Governor eliminates program in both years, a savings of $26,640 in each year. House restores the program at $32,000, but requires each student receiving a grant to set up practice in Virginia for at least 2 years. (Item 147, page 179)

Virginia Space Grant Consortium Scholarships – House adds $75,000 to this scholarship program, bringing the total to $245,000. (Item 147, page 179)

General Education Transfer Certificate - House directs SCHEV to explore the creation of a transfer certificate – up to 36 credit hours – that would have full portability to state 4-yr institutions to satisfy general education requirements at the receiving institution. (Item 149, page 186)

Tuition Assistance Grant (TAG) Program – Governor begins a phase-out of the program for graduate students, beginning July 1, 2009. House restores the program, but requires that grants to graduate students be in health-related fields. (Item 147, page 179, 181)

Virginia Women’s Institute for Leadership - House reduces/benchmarks VWIL grants to the TAG program, saving $264,000. (Item 149, page 183)
Tuition Moderation Incentive Fund – Governor eliminates the program for FY10. (Item 254, page 260)

Eminent Scholars – Governor eliminates entire $6 million matching fund for this program -- a $2.8 million reduction to the University. Senate restores $4 million. (Item 148, page 182)

Department of Health Dentistry Scholarships – Governor eliminates $325,000 in each year for scholarships and loan repayments for dental students. (Item 290, page 306)

Commonwealth Technology Research Fund (CTRF) – Governor re-designates CTRF to be used to “assist in commercializing research developed at institutions of higher education in Virginia in the fields of energy, conservation, environment, microelectronics, or lifespan biology and medicine. Governor establishes Innovative Technology Authority (rather than an Advisory Committee on Competitive Research) as the granting agency. Governor provides that $75,000 in each year will be matched by respective institutions of higher education to fund administrative costs. House eliminates $1 million CTRF in both 08-09 and 09-10. [Note: UVa has already received a transfer of $256k in Fy09 for awards made to Herr and Wolf.] Senate reduces funding for Jefferson Lab (15%, $900k), HU Foundation (15%, $75k), and CTRF (50%, $500k). (Item 254, page 258)

Two Year College Transfer Grant Program – Governor increases investment in the program from $1.8 million to $3.1 million. House eliminates the increased investment. Senate provides an additional $351,000. (Item 474, page 526).

G.I. Bill – House allows public colleges and universities to enroll students under the G.I. Bill without being subject to delinquent account regulations, allowing them to register prior to receipt of G.I. Bill benefits. (Item 4-0.01, page 622)

SCHEV Restored Budget Reduction - House restores funds and requires SCHEV to continue to provide independent analysis and assessment of higher education policies and programs, including restructuring efforts. (Item 151.05, page 187)

Other
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) – Governor provides new language around reimbursement and capitation rates. Senate further reduces Medicaid reimbursements to teaching hospitals by 3%. (Item 306, page 339-344)

Outpatient Abortion Services - House adds language directing the Board of Health to develop a regulatory program for outpatient surgical centers and physicians offices that perform 25 or more abortions per year. (Item 301, page 310)

Unused Pharmaceutical Disposal Program - House adds language directing the Board of Pharmacy to plan for the development of an unused pharmaceutical disposal program. (Item 303, page 321)
Citizen Member Per Diems – Governor eliminates the payment of per diems for citizen members of boards or commissions, transferring $77,000 from agency budgets to reflect this decrease. (Item 475, page 527)

Erosion and Sediment Control – Governor provides that public institutions of higher education are to be subject to review and compliance for state erosion and sediment control requirements by the local authority within which the land disturbing activity, unless such institution submits annual specifications to the Department of Conservation and Recreation. (Item 361, page 405)

Virginia Enterprise Application Project (VEAP) – Governor includes language that, effective July 1, 2009, VEAP will cease to exist as a separate agency and will be established as a division under Information Technology Planning and Quality Control program under the Virginia Information Technologies Agency. Senate and House add clarifying language. (Item 63, page 43).

Division of Purchases and Supply – Governor removes language directing the division to standardize the general delegation of procurement authority for all goods and non-professional services, including IT. (Item 80, page 76)

Public Television and Radio – House eliminates $3.3 million in grants to public television and radio which are not directly tied to educational grants. Senate reduces funding by $228,000. (Item 67, page 46)

Federal Stimulus Funding - House adds language that DPB cannot increase state agency appropriations for any funding received from the federal government; the General Assembly must do this. (Item 4-1.04, Page 626)