



Northern Virginia Regional Commission

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Northern Virginia Regional Commission Calls on State Senate To Reject House School Funding Amendments

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission sent a letter today (Feb. 29) calling on the Virginia Senate to reject categorically the House budget amendments that would change the methodology for re-benchmarking the Standards of Quality (SOQ) for K-12 school funding.

“These amendments, if approved, would have a devastating impact on public school funding and therefore on the education of children in our region,” said Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission. “NVRC urges members of the Senate take decisive action to quickly kill the House budget amendments. We believe that the taxpayers of Northern Virginia will find these proposals unacceptable,” he said.

The House amendments would shift the financial obligation of millions of dollars from the state to local taxpayers for the state-mandated Standards of Quality – a burden that cannot be borne in many localities. The proposed changes would alter the way public education is funded beginning with the 2008-10 Biennial State Budget. Further, the House amendments would establish a devastating, long-lasting precedent for K-12 school funding in future biennia.

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission is a coalition of 14 local governments which work together on regional issues and programs. For more information about NVRC’s letter to the Virginia Senate, contact G. Mark Gibb, NVRC’s Executive Director, 703.642.4646. For more information about NVRC, check the web site www.novaregion.org or call 703.642.0700.

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