

Taskforce on the Implementation of the Pupil Weighting Factors Final Report

Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary
2. Introduction
 - a. Concern about equity for VT students
 - b. Task Force Created
 - c. Reviewed many issues
 - d. Recommendations
 - i. Some specific
 - ii. Some further research
3. Background
 - a. Act 60 Overview and Impact
 - b. Current Law
 - i. Combination of categorical and weights
 - ii. Graph showing impact of categorical aid and weights on per pupil spending
 - iii. What else?
 - c. Two issues suggest there is a role for some smaller changes to make VT even more equitable
 - i. Unintended consequences
 - ii. Changes in VT in the past 25 years (demographics, school district configuration, other legislation, etc)
 - d. Kolbe report
 - i. Focus was only on weights
4. Findings
 - a. Weighting
 - i. Current Law
 - ii. Pros and cons of weights
 - iii. If stick with weights, Task force recommendations
 1. Additive vs multiplicative
 - b. Cost Equity Formula
 - i. concept - not enough time to fully model
 - ii. Pros and cons
 - iii. Task force recommendation - investigate further

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Table of Contents

- c. Task Force Recommendations
 - i. Do more work on weights and cost equity
 - ii. Periodic updates of either should happen in the future (new model or inflation)
- 5. Measurement of Poverty
 - a. SNAP vs FPL
 - b. Universal income declaration
- 6. English Language Learners
 - a. Current Law
 - b. Task Force Recommendations - categorical grant
- 7. Special Education
 - a. Current Law
 - b. Task Force recommendation -
- 8. Secondary pupils
 - a. Current law
 - b. Task Force recommendations - change weight, add separate middle school
- 9. Small School and Population density
 - a. Current law
 - b. Task Force recommendations - including small school & merger grant decisions
- 10. Strengthening and Enforcing Education Quality Standards
 - a. Current law: Equal educational opportunity and local control
 - b. Measuring broader outcomes beyond test scores
 - c. Task Force recommendations
- 11. Transition from current law
 - a. Rate changes
 - b. Education income tax
 - c. Excess spending threshold
 - d. Income sensitivity timing
 - e. Further modeling and caveats needed
- 12. Income Tax for Education Funding
 - a. Tax Structure Commission Recommendation

Taskforce on the Implementation of the Pupil Weighting Factors Final Report

Table of Contents

- b. Task Force Discussion
- 13. Program Review – Did these changes accomplish the desired outcome?
- 14. Other Issues to Address with further Review
 - a. Existing programs and situations
 - i. Career and tech ed
 - ii. Students enrolled in early college
 - iii. Tuitioning districts
 - iv. Early childhood education (pre-k)
 - v. School construction
 - b. Possible new programs
 - i. Students with adverse childhood experiences
 - ii. Gifted and talented students
- 15. Conclusion and Next Steps

- 16. Appendix How Pupil Weighting and Categorical Aid Work Under Current Law.. 10
- 17. Appendix Impact of Proposals on Statewide and District- Level Spending. 11
- 18. Appendix Tentative weights if Cost Equity not used. 13
- 19. Appendix History of Education Funding
- 20. Appendix Weighting Factors Simulator