



City of Alexandria, Virginia
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Alyia Gaskins
Mayor

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March 7, 2025

The Honorable Governor Glenn Youngkin
111 East Borad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor Youngkin,

I am writing to express the City of Alexandria's support for budget amendments made to House Bill 1600 that will greatly impact students in our public schools, and ask that you maintain these critical resources in the final budget:

- [HB1600 Amendment 125 #6c](#), funding for per pupil add-on for school division special education services totaling **\$52.8 million**.
- [HB1600, Amendment 125 #11c](#), funding to eliminate the cap on school division support positions supporting more school division's actual costs with **\$222.3 million**.

These historic funding initiatives will benefit students with disabilities by funding:

- Teacher recruitment and retention efforts to strengthen teaching and learning for our most vulnerable students.
- Needed staffing positions to support inclusion in general education classes.
- Expanded early childhood special education services for early intervention.
- Expanded transition services to better prepare students for career and post-secondary education or training.

Alexandria stands with the Virginia Parent Teachers Association and the recommendations from the Joint Legislative and Audit and Review Commission to start improving educational outcomes for Virginia's youth. Including these amendments in the final budget would be a critical step in right-sizing the staffing and support needs of our school divisions and demonstrate a meaningful commitment to our children and their futures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alyia Gaskins".

Alyia Gaskins
Mayor
City of Alexandria