

How they compare

Here is a comparison of the proposed budgets for 2010-2012 adopted yesterday by the House Appropriations Committee and Senate Finance Committee:

	House Appropriations plan	Senate Finance plan
State workers	No furloughs. No reduction in state payment to pensions. Three percent bonus in December 2011.	Six furlough days over two years. Lower state contributions to pensions. Three percent bonus in December 2011.
Public education	Cuts aid to K-12 by \$620 million but offsets it through \$540 million in localities' retirement savings. Adds \$92 million to limit effect of change in funding formula.	Cuts aid for K-12 by \$418 million. Reductions total \$133 million because of savings through lower pension fund contributions. Limits cuts in basic state aid under change in funding formula.
Higher education	No further cuts.	No additional cuts in direct aid to colleges and universities. Cuts \$10 million in grants to Virginians attending state's private colleges.
Health programs	Cuts Medicaid and children's health programs by \$200 million by reducing eligibility and payments to providers. Restores funding for adolescent mental-health center in Staunton. Closes another in Marion.	Cuts programs by \$344 million. Restores money for community health centers and preserves local dental services. Restores funding for adolescent mental-health center in Staunton. Closes another in Marion.
Public safety	Restores two-thirds of proposed \$204 million cut from sheriffs, prosecutors and other constitutional offices. Restores state trooper schools in 2011 and 2012. Closes two small, minimum-security prisons.	Recommends closing one prison, not yet determined, by June 30. Restores \$182 million to avoid layoffs of 1,500 deputies, court and local finance workers.
Judicial	Saves \$21 million by not filling 19 vacant judgeships and by closing drug courts.	Calls for study of court system during economic downturn.
Tax relief	Preserves \$950 million a year in car-tax relief for localities.	Preserves \$950 million a year in car-tax relief for localities.