# Department of Planning and Budget
## 2025 General Assembly Session
### State Fiscal Impact Statement

**PUBLISHED: 1/16/2025 7:08 PM** **ORIGINAL**

**Bill Number:** SB1326 **Patron:** Perry
**Bill Title:** Department of Emergency Management; work groups related to the Commonwealths response to the COVID-19 pandemic; report.

**Bill Summary:** Directs the Department of Emergency Management to convene work groups to (i) study the reliance of the Commonwealth and its localities on federal grants for core emergency management functions, (ii) study and develop a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework to take effect during a disaster for which a state of emergency has been declared, and (iii) study and develop solutions to address breaks in technology continuity among communities across the Commonwealth during emergencies. The bill directs each work group to complete its work and report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly no later than November 30, 2025. This bill is a recommendation of the Joint Subcommittee to Study Pandemic Response and Preparedness in the Commonwealth.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes **Items Impacted:** 398
**Explanation:** Additional funding needed to support contractor costs.

**Fiscal Summary:** According to the Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), the agency will need one-time funding up to $358,980 to hire contractors in order to meet the requirements of the proposed legislation.

**General Fund Expenditure Impact:**

| Agency | FY2025 | FY2026 | FY2027 | FY2028 | FY2029 | FY2030 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| VDEM | | $358,980 | | | | |
| **TOTAL** | | **$358,980** | | | | |

**Fiscal Analysis:** The proposed bill directs VDEM to convene several work groups and produce reports. According to VDEM, additional resources would be required to meet these requirements. Further, the timeline outlined in the bill would be in the height of hurricane season for VDEM, which supports the need for outside staff.

Based on pre-negotiated emergency services contractor rates from prior similar projects and a projected two-month performance period for the contractual costs, the estimated one-time contractor cost to support the requirements of the proposed legislation is $358,980.

It is expected that any costs to other agencies associated with work group participation will be minimal and/or absorbable.

**Other:** Identical to SB1325