

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB1992

Patron: Askew

Bill Title: Virginia Emergency Management Preparedness and Capabilities Grant Program and Fund established; work group; report.

Bill Summary: Establishes the Virginia Emergency Management Preparedness and Capabilities Grant Program and Fund for the purpose of awarding grants to political subdivisions to assist with the cost of emergency management and preparedness. The bill states that the Program will be administered by the Department of Emergency Management, which shall establish guidelines for (i) the administration of the Program and (ii) awarding grants to political subdivisions from the Fund. A political subdivision awarded a grant must use such funds for certain purposes to advance the emergency preparedness of such subdivision, and must provide a 50 percent match of local or federal funds for the award. The bill requires the Department, beginning on or before December 1, 2025, and each year thereafter, to submit a report to the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, the Governor, and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Public Safety and the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations summarizing the activities of the Program.

The bill directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish a work group to study existing emergency management needs and analyze sustainability of current funding, among other things, and to report the work group's findings and recommendations to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology on or before October 1, 2025.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes

Items Impacted: 1, 398

Explanation: Additional funding needed to support workgroup participation and contractor costs.

Fiscal Summary: According to the Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), the agency would need to hire a contractor to establish the work group and produce the report required in the enactment clause of the proposed legislation. The estimated one-time cost for the contractor is \$120,222. The compensation cost for House and Senate member participation in the work group is estimated to be \$1,200.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

Agency	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030
GA of Virginia	\$1,200					
VDEM	\$120,222					
TOTAL	\$121,422					

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Fiscal Analysis: According to VDEM, there is no expected fiscal impact as a result of the establishment and administration of the Program and Fund in accordance with the proposed bill. An enactment clause directs the SPSHS to establish a workgroup to study existing emergency management needs and analyze sustainability. The enactment clause also gives the SPSHS the option to hire a contractor to carry out this responsibility. It is expected that VDEM would assume responsibility for establishing the workgroup, in coordination with the SPSHS. 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 a two-month performance period for the contractual costs, the estimated one-time contractor cost to support the requirements of the proposed legislation is \$120,222.

The enactment clause also requires representatives from the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations and the House Committee on Appropriations to participate in the work group. Assuming two meetings, costs for the House/Senate members included are \$1,200 for compensation (under Item 1) and \$1,468 for travel. It is expected that travel costs can be absorbed by VDEM.

The amount of funding provided for the newly created Virginia Emergency Management Preparedness and Capabilities Fund will be dependent on what is authorized by the General Assembly.

Other: Companion bill to SB1246