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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number:HB1595EPatron:FeggansBill Title:Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program; changes to eligibility criteria.

Bill Summary: The substitute makes several changes to the Virginia National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program, including (i) making the provisions relating to the requirements and conditions for eligibility for and award of grants under the Program subject to regulations as prescribed by the Adjutant General, (ii) eliminating the requirement to satisfy financial obligations with the institution of higher education at the beginning of each semester, and (iii) simplifying the requirements relating to academic performance and good standing. Additionally, the yearly funding amount for recruitment grants is increased from \$50,000 to \$250,000.

Budget Amendment Necessary:NoItems Impacted:Explanation:No budget amendment is necessary.

Fiscal Summary: According to the Department of Military Affairs (DMA), there is no anticipated fiscal impact as a result of the bill.

Fiscal Analysis: According to DMA, the proposal may increase enrollment in the Virginia National Guard's tuition assistance program, however the increase in enrollment will be absorbable with existing resources. The amount of tuition assistance provided per individual will be adjusted based on the total number of enrollees and available funding. Although the substitute increases the maximum amount of recruitment grant funding from \$50,000 to \$250,000 per year, the proposal does not require DMA expend the maximum amount. Additionally, without additional general fund appropriation, the agency may not be able to meet the maximum amount in a fiscal year.

Other: This bill is similar to SB1106E.