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

PUBLISHED: 2/18/2025 10:21 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB1144ER **Patron:** Obenshain
Bill Title: Commonwealth Rail Fund; Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund.

Bill Summary: Removes the $4 million cap on those Commonwealth Rail Fund (Fund) moneys distributed to the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) that may be applied to the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund and instead allows DRPT to apply up to 50 percent of its share of the moneys in the Fund. The bill retains the current provisions granting 93 percent of Fund moneys to the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and seven percent to DRPT.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No. **Items Impacted:** None.

Fiscal Summary: Since the funding distributions are fixed by formula per § 33.2-1524.1 and § 33.2-1526.4 of the Code of Virginia and those distributions are not changed, this bill would not have any direct state fiscal impact; however, it will provide the Department of Rail and Public Transportation with the flexibility to use up to 50 percent of its share of moneys in the Fund for the Shortline Railway Preservation and Development Fund if sufficient revenue and funding needs occur.

Fiscal Analysis: None.

Other: This is a companion bill to HB1603.