# Department of Planning and Budget
## 2026 General Assembly Session
### State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED:  1/15/2026 10:54 AM                                                                    ORIGINAL

**Bill Number:**   HB776                              **Patron:**    Thornton
**Bill Title:**   Department of Military Affairs; biennial training; Virginia National Guard; report.

**Bill Summary:**  Requires the Department of Military Affairs (the Department) to conduct a biennial training among all officers of the Virginia National Guard, the curriculum for which shall be established by the Adjutant General in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs, the Attorney General, and the Governor. Such training shall (a) remind officers of their oath to upholding the Constitution; (b) inform officers on the process for identifying and responding to suspected unlawful order; and (c) remind officers of their obligation to remain nonpartisan in the execution of their duties. The bill requires the Department to conduct the training among all officers of the Virginia National Guard by November 1, 2026. The bill directs the Adjutant General to require officers holding command and company and flight commanders to inform their Guard members on the processes for addressing any suspected unlawful order. The bill additionally directs the Adjutant General to establish a standard operating procedure by which officers can report the issuance of an unlawful order to the Office of the Attorney General, the Inspector General of the Virginia National Guard, and the United States Department of War and Military Services Offices of Inspector General.

**Budget Amendment Necessary:**     No               **Items Impacted:**    N/A
**Explanation:**    None

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

**Fiscal Analysis:** According to DMA, the provisions of the bill associated with requiring training for all Virginia National Guard officers are an existing pre-deployment requirement that is currently provided by DMA staff. As such, DMA does not anticipate any additional costs.

**Other:** None.