

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB472 **Patron:** Feggans
Bill Title: Establishing a resilience hub pilot program to assist vulnerable communities during emergency situations.

Bill Summary: Directs the Department of Emergency Management to establish a two-year resilience hub pilot program to assist vulnerable communities during emergency situations. The bill defines a "resilience hub" as a simple combination of solar panels and batteries that ensures continuous power to a publicly accessible building when severe weather events or other grid disruptions cause an electrical outage.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** 398
Explanation: Additional funding needed to procure emergency equipment

Fiscal Summary: The proposed legislation requires the Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) to establish up to three resilience hubs per year of the two-year pilot program. The estimated initial cost to VDEM to support this pilot program is approximately \$300,000 per year for the duration of the two-year pilot program.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
VDEM		\$300,000	\$300,000			
TOTAL		\$300,000	\$300,000			

Fiscal Analysis: According to VDEM, the initial cost of a solar energy generation unit for a single location is up to \$100,000. The legislation requires VDEM to establish up to three resilience hubs per year of the two-year pilot program. For each disaster event, VDEM anticipates that delivery, deployment, and operation may cost up to \$20,000, as staff will be required on-site to address immediate issues. All deployment costs are estimates and may vary based on the duration of the incident and the location.

Solar generation units can be stored and VDEM's Logistics Support Coordination Center and delivered to the site as needed by a contractor. VDEM would utilize sum sufficient to cover costs associated with resource deployment, management, and maintenance during the Governor's Declaration of a State of Emergency.

Other: None