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

PUBLISHED: 1/28/2026 10:34 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB165 **Patron:** Thomas
Bill Title: Board for Contractors; examinations; alternative languages.

Bill Summary: Provides that any exam offered by the Board for Contractors that averaged over 50 administrations per year over the preceding four-year period shall be made available in any language that meets the threshold for having election materials printed in that language pursuant to the federal Voting Rights Act.

Budget Amendment Necessary: See fiscal analysis **Items Impacted:** 353
Explanation: The Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation's (DPOR) Board for Contractors would be impacted by the bill, but exact estimates are not yet available.

Fiscal Summary: Impact estimates are not yet available from the agency, however based on a similar bill in 2024, expenses are anticipated to exceed $156,000 in the first year with smaller ongoing impacts.

Fiscal Analysis: The bill would require DPOR's Board of Contractors to make certain examinations available in languages other than English for any language that meets the threshold for having election materials printed in that language pursuant to the federal Voting Rights Act. The Department of Elections currently provides materials in English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese.

Impact estimates are not yet available from DPOR. For a similar bill in 2024, DPOR estimated that of the 85 exams offered, 29 would need to be translated at a cost of $4,000 per exam for a total of $156,000 in the first year (ten have already been translated into Spanish). However, that estimate only included translations to Spanish and Vietnamese, but not Korean. Additionally, the Department noted that while the bill only requires the examination to be offered in the additional languages, it may be appropriate to provide test proctors who speak the language, along with translations of resource materials and related publications which are currently available in English. In future years, the Board would incur translation expenses when updating exams and related materials.

As with all of DPOR's Boards, the Board for Contractors is funded by its regulant population through licensing fees. If the Board's expenses exceed revenue, it may be required to raise fees. If the expansion of exam accessibility results in a higher number of successful applicants, the Board could see an increase in revenue. Because the number of new licensees is unknown, the amount is indeterminate.

This estimate is preliminary and may be updated when new information becomes available.

Other: None.