

2026 SESSION

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

26107045D

SENATE BILL NO. 98

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology
on February 4, 2026)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Stanley)

A BILL to direct the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to convene a work group to evaluate existing emergency management needs in the Commonwealth; report.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

9 *1. § 1. That the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security (the Secretary) shall establish a work*
10 *group composed of representatives from the Department of Emergency Management, the Department of*
11 *Planning and Budget, the Virginia Emergency Management Association, the Virginia Association of*
12 *Counties, the Virginia Municipal League, and such other stakeholders as the Secretary deems appropriate*
13 *to evaluate existing emergency management needs, analyze sustainability of current funding for such needs,*
14 *and review alternative funding models for such needs in other states. In conducting its evaluation, the work*
15 *group may hire an outside consultant and shall analyze local capability assessment for readiness reports,*
16 *recent after-action reports from declared emergency events, historical trends of federal homeland security*
17 *and emergency management funding, any anticipated or announced changes to federal homeland security*
18 *and emergency management funding, any gaps in current funding, how other states fund emergency*
19 *management services, and best practices from other states. The Secretary shall report the work group's*
20 *findings and recommendations to the Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House*
21 *Committee on General Laws, the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, and the Senate*
22 *Committee on General Laws and Technology on or before October 1, 2026.*

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