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

PUBLISHED: 2/16/2026 3:35 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB472 H1 **Patron:** Feggans
Bill Title: Resilience hub pilot program; establishing to assist vulnerable communities during emergency situations

Bill Summary: Directs the Department of Energy, in consultation with 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. The bill restricts the pilot program to the service territory of a Phase II Utility as defined by § 56-585.1, with no more than one hub established in any single planning district.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** None
Explanation: This bill involves the Department of Energy; however, no budget action is needed.

Fiscal Summary: It is anticipated that Energy can absorb any fiscal impact resulting from the administration of the pilot program. If Energy is required to purchase and install the equipment, additional resources would be required.

Fiscal Analysis: The bill directs Energy, in coordination with the Department of Emergency Management, to establish a pilot program designed to establish three “resilience hubs” which consist of solar panels and battery storage to allow a continuous power supply to a publicly accessible building during grid disruptions.

According to Energy, the administration of the pilot program can be absorbed by current staff with existing resources. If Energy is required to purchase and install the solar panels and batteries, additional resources will be needed. The bill specifies that the Utility would own, and can petition the SCC to recover costs for purchasing, the battery storage component, but does not speak to the solar panels or installation cost.

Energy estimates that the total cost of equipment based on industry benchmarks (60 kW solar panels, 80 kWh battery storage, auxiliary 60 kW generator, enclosure, switchgear, inverters, controls, engineering, integration, and testing) would total $653,000 per unit. Each unit would also incur costs for deployment (grid interconnection hardware and software, permitting, site preparation, compliance, and training) of approximately $115,000 per unit. The total cost per unit, including a ten percent contingency, would be $845,000. The cost of three units would be $2.5 million.

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

Other: None.