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

PUBLISHED: 2/19/2026 9:22 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB1385H1 **Patron:** Franklin
Bill Title: Gubernatorial appointments; confirmation process; Virginia Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments; membership, duties, and committees of and legal counsel for governing boards of public institutions of higher education.

Bill Summary: Amends the membership of the Virginia Commission on Higher Education Board Appointments to allow for the appointment of up to 15 nonlegislative citizen members; currently the Commission consists of six nonlegislative citizen members. The bill clarifies that the rejection of a gubernatorial appointment by the House or Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections or a subcommittee thereof or other standing committee made responsible by the rules of the applicable house for confirming gubernatorial appointments shall be deemed a refusal to confirm by the General Assembly for purposes of the constitutional prohibition on an appointee serving after such refusal. The bill also establishes provisions relating to the appointment, confirmation, and oath of members of governing boards of public institutions of higher education and quorum requirements for and duties of such governing boards. Finally, the bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to examine the feasibility of requiring the governing board of each public institution of higher education in the Commonwealth to be responsible for all decisions relating to the employment of legal counsel for such institution.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** None
Explanation: See below

Fiscal Summary: It is anticipated that any fiscal impact can be supported with existing resources of the affected entities.

Other: This bill incorporates HB780, HB939, and HB1069. This bill is similar to SB494, which incorporates SB381.