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

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Bill Number: HB165 ER **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 § 24.2-128.

Budget Amendment Necessary: See fiscal analysis **Items Impacted:** 353
Explanation: The Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation's (DPOR) Board for Contractors would incur additional expenses.

Fiscal Summary: It is anticipated that the bill will result in a nongeneral fund expense impact of $400,000 in FY 2027 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 Code of Virginia § 24.2-128. The Department of Elections currently provides materials in English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese.

DPOR estimates that of the 85 exams offered, 50 would need to be translated at a cost of $4,000 per exam for a one-time cost of $200,000 per language. The agency's current vendor offers free Spanish translations, so the total cost for Korean and Vietnamese would be $400,000.

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 receives no general fund support and is funded by its regulant population through licensing fees. If the expansion of exam accessibility results in a higher number of successful applicants, the Board could see an increase in revenue. If the Board's expenses exceed revenue, it may be required to raise fees. Because the number of new licensees is unknown, the amount is indeterminate.

Other: None.