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

PUBLISHED: 3/11/2026 11:09 AM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: HB223ER **Patron:** Hope
Bill Title: Public defender; local funding for positions.

Bill Summary: This enrolled bill allows the governing body of any county or city to fund positions in the office of the public defender.

Budget Amendment Necessary: None **Items Impacted:** N/A
Explanation: The proposed bill clarifies that localities are permitted to fully fund public defender positions.

Fiscal Summary: According to the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission (VIDC), this bill does not impact the General Fund.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no anticipated impact on state agency operations, however there may be operational cost increases on localities that choose to fund positions in the office of public defender, in accordance with the provisions of the bill.

Other: None