

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

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB169 ER **Patron:** Askew
Bill Title: Virginia Emergency Management Preparedness and Capabilities Grant Program and Fund established; report.

Bill Summary: The enrolled bill directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to establish a work group composed of representatives from the Department of Emergency Management, the Department of Planning and Budget, the Virginia Emergency Management Association, the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia Municipal League, and such other stakeholders as the Secretary deems appropriate to study existing emergency management needs and analyze sustainability of current funding, among other things, and to report the work group's findings and recommendations Chairs of the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on General Laws, the Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology on or before October 1, 2026.

Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes **Items Impacted:** 398
Explanation: Additional funding is needed to support one-time contractor costs associated with the work group.

Fiscal Summary: The Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) anticipates the need to hire a contractor to establish the work group and produce the report required in the proposed legislation. The estimated one-time cost for the contractor is \$130,000.

General Fund Expenditure Impact:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>	<u>FY2029</u>	<u>FY2030</u>	<u>FY2031</u>
VDEM		\$130,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL		\$130,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Analysis: The enrolled bill directs the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security (SPSHS) to establish a work group to study existing emergency management needs and analyze sustainability. The enrolled bill also gives the SPSHS the option to hire a contractor to carry out this responsibility. It is expected that VDEM will assume responsibility for establishing the work group, in coordination with the SPSHS. The timeline outlined in the enrolled bill would be in the height of hurricane season for VDEM, which supports the need for outside staff. Based on pre-negotiated emergency services contractor rates from prior similar

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projects and a projected two-month performance period for the contractual costs, the estimated one-time contractor cost to support the requirements of the proposed legislation is \$130,000.

Other: None