



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

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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
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**Fiscal Analysis:** VDEM will contract with an independent, third-party consultant to conduct a comprehensive 90-day preparedness study. The contract will include analysis of historical declared and non-declared disaster events in Virginia, incorporation of recent Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) findings, evaluation of current state and local responsibilities, and recommendations to strengthen the Commonwealth’s preparedness posture. The timeline outlined in the bill would be during hurricane season for VDEM, which supports the need for outside staff.

Based on current industry consulting rates for government and emergency management studies, this engagement is estimated to cost approximately \$225,000, depending on the final scope and level of expertise contracted. This range includes professional fees, incidental travel and data expenses, and standard deliverables. The estimated cost is based on a contractor rate of \$3,000 per day, for an estimated performance period of 75 days. Contractual terms will include specific deliverables and performance criteria to ensure fiscal accountability and measurable outcomes.

**Other:** A budget amendment providing \$130,000 from the general fund in FY 2027 to support the fiscal impact of Senate Bill 98 and Senate Bill 635 was included by the Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee (398 #2s). Senate Bill 635 was a companion to this bill; however, Senate Bill 635 was tabled in Appropriations committee.