

Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1484

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Campbell

3. Committee: Appropriations

4. Title: Virginia Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund and Program; established.

5. Summary: Establishes the Virginia Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund and Program, to be administered by the Department of Emergency Management and financially managed by the Virginia Resources Authority, for the purpose of making loans and awarding grants to local governments for the purpose of assisting with improvement projects relating to public safety radio and communications infrastructure.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 398.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary (see Item 8 below).

8. Fiscal Implications: The Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) reports that it does not have experience administering loan programs. To develop and oversee the Program and the Fund as required by this bill, VDEM estimates that it would need to additional resources to hire two additional full-time Public Safety Communications Coordinators at an annual cost of \$116,193 each (including benefits).

According to the Virginia Resources Authority (VRA), their costs to financially manage the fund would depend on the volume of activity but are preliminary estimated at \$100,000 per year. VRA notes that unlike other established revolving loan funds, this bill does not expressly allow the Authority to reimburse itself for its reasonable costs and expenses incurred in the administration and management of the Fund. It is assumed that the bill is intended to allow VRA to be reimbursed for such costs from amounts in the Virginia Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Fund.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Emergency Management, Virginia Resources Authority.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: Companion bill to SB573.