

Department of Planning and Budget 2021 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB2058

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

2. **Patron:** Simonds

3. **Committee:** Education.

4. **Title:** Virginia STEM Education Advisory Board; established; report.

5. **Summary:** Establishes the Virginia Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Advisory Board to create a unified vision regarding STEM education initiatives, language, and measures of success to promote a culture of collaboration for STEM programming in the Commonwealth. The board shall develop the infrastructure for creating STEM regional hubs and naming STEM champions in communities across the Commonwealth. Additionally, the board shall report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly on STEM challenges, goals, and successes across the Commonwealth.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, Item 249.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, See Item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The establishment of the Virginia STEM Advisory Board is proposed to coordinate efforts in creating a common language, establishing a rubric for expectations, and reporting on STEM challenges, goals, and successes across the Commonwealth. The Board would also work to develop and disseminate STEM curricular and professional development resources for formal education and for settings outside of the classroom. Ultimately, it is expected to establish the infrastructure for creating STEM Regional Hubs and naming STEM champions in communities across the Commonwealth.

The cost for the proposed Virginia Stem Advisory Board is estimated at \$10,000 to pay for Virginia's membership to STEMx, a national best practice association that helps provide coordination for state STEM networks and connects Virginia to national grant/partnership opportunities, and \$15,000 to cover meeting/travel expenses for Board members going about their official duties. The existing Virginia STEM Coordinator at the Science Museum of Virginia is to serve as staff for this Board.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Secretary of Education, Office of Workforce Development, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Science Museum of Virginia, Virginia Department of Education, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia.

10. **Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

11. Other Comments: None.