

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB353

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed

Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Vogel

3. Committee: General Laws and Technology

4. Title: Emergency Shelters Upgrade Assistance Grant Fund; funds to be paid to certain entities.

5. Summary: Currently, pursuant to § 44-146.29:3, Code of Virginia, the Emergency Shelters Upgrade Assistance Grant Fund is to be used solely for the purposes of providing matching funds to localities to install, maintain, or repair infrastructure for backup energy generation for emergency shelters, including solar energy generators, and improve the hazard-specific structural integrity of shelter facilities owned by the locality. This bill expands eligibility to entities previously outlined in a local shelter plan and those identified in the shelter plan of the locality.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8 below.

8. Fiscal Implications: The current budget includes \$2.5 million from the general fund each year for the Emergency Shelters Upgrade Assistance Grant Fund, which is administered by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM). Currently, as administered by VDEM, local governments are limited to one shelter upgrade application per year, which can include multiple shelter locations owned by the locality, and there is a \$450,000 limit (state share) for each grant awarded. According to VDEM, because the proposed bill expands the pool of eligible applicants, it may result in smaller amounts awarded for each grant recipient.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: This bill is the same as HB570 and SB521.