

## Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB345

**House of Origin**    ☐ Introduced    ☒ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed  
**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Stolle

**3. Committee:** Passed the House.

**4. Title:** Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Protection and Flooding Adaptation.

**5. Summary:** This substitute bill creates the executive branch position of Special Assistant to the Governor for Coastal Adaptation and Protection (the Assistant). The bill provides that the Assistant shall be the lead in developing and in providing direction and ensuring accountability for a statewide coastal flooding adaptation strategy. The bill directs the Assistant to initiate and assist with economic development opportunities associated with adaptation, to advance academic expertise at the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding and Resiliency, and to pursue federal, state, and local funding opportunities for adaptation initiatives.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** Yes, to Item 51 of HB30/SB30.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary. See item 8.

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2019	\$140,000	1	General Fund
2020	\$140,000	1	General Fund
2021	\$140,000	1	General Fund
2022	\$140,000	1	General Fund
2023	\$140,000	1	General Fund
2024	\$140,000	1	General Fund

**7b. Revenue Impact:** None.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill establishes a new Special Assistant position within the Office of the Governor, charged with serving as the lead in providing direction, ensuring accountability, and developing a statewide coastal flooding adaptation strategy for the Commonwealth. Assuming a similar salary structure to a Deputy Secretary position, it is anticipated that the cost associated with this position will be \$140,000, including salary and benefits. Item 51 for the Office of Governor will require a general fund budget amendment for this position. It is anticipated that office space and supplies are currently available to support this position, and such costs are included in the base budget of the Secretariat.

The bill provides that the Special Assistant shall initiate and assist with economic development opportunities associated with coastal adaption and shall pursue federal, state, and local funding opportunities for adaptation initiatives. Specifically, the bill states that the Special Assistant will advance academic expertise at the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding and Resiliency and coordinate with the Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board. Currently, several agencies across various secretariats contribute to efforts related to coastal flooding threats and adaptation. These agencies include, but are not limited to, the Department of Emergency Management, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy, and the Department of Environmental Quality, as well as higher-education institutions including Old Dominion University, the Virginia Institute for Marine Science, and the College of William and Mary. In addition to the above-listed agencies, the Secure and Resilient Commonwealth Panel, an advisory board in the executive branch, is tasked with monitoring and assessing the implementation of statewide prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery initiatives related to natural disasters.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Office of the Governor; Secretaries of Commerce and Trade, Health and Human Resources, Natural Resources, Technology, Transportation, and Public Safety and Homeland Security; the Department of Emergency Management; the Department of Transportation; the Department of Housing and Community Development; the Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy; the Department of Environmental Quality; Old Dominion University; the Virginia Institute for Marine Science; College of William and Mary; Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding and Resiliency, Virginia Growth and Opportunity Board; other state agencies.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** SB265 is similar to this bill.