Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number:	HB1146					
	House of Origin		Introduced		Substitute		Engrossed
	Second House		In Committee		Substitute	\square	Enrolled
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- **2. Patron:** Bell
- 3. Committee: Passed Both Houses
- **4. Title:** Commercial driver's license examinations.
- **5. Summary:** This bill authorizes governmental entities, including comprehensive community colleges in the Virginia Community College System, certified as third party testers to test and train drivers employed by another governmental entity or enrolled in a commercial driver training course offered by a community college. The bill extends the validity of a skills test certification from 60 days to six months.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

- 7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Final. See Item #8.
- 8. Fiscal Implications: Under the current law, school boards are allowed only to test drivers they employ or have trained in accordance with the Virginia School Bus Driver Training Guide. This bill expands this authority to allow school boards to not only test drivers they train and employ, but any driver employed by a school board and trained in accordance with the Virginia School Bus Driver Training Curriculum Guide. The bill also would allow governmental entities, including comprehensive community colleges in the Virginia Community College System, to be certified as third-party testers to test students that other governmental entities have trained. Current law requires that skills test certificates be submitted to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) within 60 days of the date that the skills test was taken. The bill removes this requirement and adds that the results of tests will remain valid for six months following the date of the test.

The bill will increase testing location options for school divisions, which will expedite the training and certification process for school bus drivers. Any tests performed by school division staff will allow DMV personnel to assist other customers.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Motor Vehicles.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.