

Department of Planning and Budget 2022 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB1300

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

2. Patron: Freitas

3. Committee: Committee Referral Pending

4. Title: Renaming Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion as Director of Diversity, Opportunity.

5. Summary: Renames the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to the Director of Diversity, Opportunity, and Inclusion. The bill adds the following responsibilities to the Director: (a) promote ideas, policies, and practices in coordination with the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to expand entrepreneurship and economic opportunities for disadvantaged Virginians, including Virginians living with disabilities; (b) facilitate bringing Virginians of different faiths together in service to their communities and the Commonwealth; (c) promote free speech and civil discourse in civic life, including viewpoint diversity in higher education in coordination with the Secretary of Education; (d) promote ideas, policies, and practices to eliminate disparities in prenatal care and to be an ambassador for unborn children; (e) coordinate with the Secretary of Education to ensure the history of the United States is taught in Virginia honestly, objectively, and completely and to respond to the rights of parents in educational and curricular decision making; and (f) perform any other responsibilities as assigned by the Governor. The bill modifies existing responsibilities such that the Director shall implement a strategic plan to increase opportunities for all Virginians and facilitate methods to turn feedback and suggestions from state employees, external stakeholders, and community leaders into actionable opportunities. The bill makes similar renaming changes for the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer elsewhere in the Code.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: See Item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: The provisions updating references of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to Diversity, Opportunity, and Inclusion do not generate a fiscal impact. The additional responsibilities given to the Director may generate fiscal impacts in the future, however, any such impact is currently indeterminate.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is identical to SB735.

Date: January 26, 2022

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