

NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used in any other situation.

Only the most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC's office in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: Heaton DATE TYPED: 01/28/02 HB 261

SHORT TITLE: Update All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan SB _____

ANALYST: Belmares

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
\$100.0				Non-Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received

Department of Public Safety (DPS)
LFC Files

No Response

Department of Health (DOH)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Section 1. House Bill 261 requires DPS in conjunction with DOH to review and revise the current State All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan (the "Plan") and conduct two tests of the Plan to ensure that the state has in place the procedures necessary to respond to an emergency or disaster that requires the resources of the state. HB 261 also requires the agencies to provide progress reports every 60 days to the Health and Human Services or the Legislative Finance committees on plan updates and testing status and to provide findings and recommendations for legislative initiatives and funding proposals by November 2002 to either committee.

Section 2. HB 261 requires DPS to complete the activities pursuant to the act and provide its final report to the governor and the legislature by December 31, 2002.

Section 3. HB 261 appropriates \$100.0 from the general fund to the DPS for expenditure in FY02 and FY03 to be expended by December 31, 2002 to execute the provision of Section 1 of the act.

Section 4. HB 261 has an emergency clause.

Significant Issues

The Governor signed the current Plan in July 1999. State agency have responsibilities outlined in the Plan; however, most state agencies that have responsibilities during emergencies and disasters do not have staff assigned to work on emergency/disaster plans. DPS suggests that each agency identify permanent staff members with emergency planning responsibilities and allow for training.

In addressing HB 261, DPS indicates that development of emergency exercises (tests) is a significant undertaking and the department would need to hire contractors to develop the exercises to conduct two statewide emergency tests by July 31, 2002 and October 31, 2002.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$100.0 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY03 shall revert to the general fund. DPS indicates the \$100.0 contained in HB 261 is sufficient to address the overtime, contractual, printing, and travel for exercise participants.

RELATIONSHIP

The State Civil Emergency Preparedness Act, mandates that all state agencies (including universities), collaborate with each other and the federal government in preparing for and responding to all threats, to include chemical and biological threats. The same agencies are required to have a strategy and an All Hazards Emergency Plan that addresses all threats.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

DPS indicates that Plan revisions and tests would be completed, but not as expeditiously because of funding and staffing constraints.

AMENDMENTS

DPS has suggested that the deadline of July 31, 2002 for completion of the first exercise be changed to August 30, 2002. The second test could be used to retest shortfalls identified in the first exercise and be as extensive.

EB/ar