

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1205 (Delegate Conwav. *et al.*)

Appropriations

Volunteer Firefighters and Rescue Squad Personnel - Disablement Benefit

This bill alters the circumstances and conditions under which the Board of Trustees of the Maryland State Firemen's Association may make disability payments out of its treasury to temporarily disabled volunteer firefighters and volunteer rescue squad personnel. The changes expand the number of persons eligible for a disability benefit, in an amount and manner that the board determines, by specifying that such a benefit must be paid regardless of: (1) the district in which the person was disabled; or (2) whether the person was disabled while acting alone or at the direction of or with a fire, ambulance, or rescue company or advanced life support unit in Maryland or any one of specified adjacent states or Washington, D.C.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate. The Maryland State Firemen's Association is a private association that receives an annual State grant to be used for specified purposes (approximately \$791,244 for FY 1999). It is unclear as to whether these allowable purposes include the disbursement of disability benefit payments. However, there is no reliable information to confirm whether this bill's potential to increase the number of eligible disability pensioners could affect future budget/grant requests from the association. In any event, any future change in the association's State grant would be subject to the normal budgetary processes.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Office of the Governor, Board of Public Works, Department of

Budget and Management, Department of State Police (State Fire Marshal), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 3, 1998
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Analysis by: Guy G. Cherry Direct Inquiries to:
Reviewed by: John Rixey John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710