

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 1076 (Delegate Redmer, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Maryland Emergency Management Agency - Report - Statewide Swift Water
Flood Rescue Plan

This bill requires the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), with assistance of a task force or committee, to develop and submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a report which evaluates the current swift water flood response capabilities in the State and recommends policies and procedures for a statewide swift water flood rescue plan. The bill outlines the requirements of the report and requires that it be submitted by December 1, 2001.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2001 and sunsets May 31, 2002.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Director of MEMA is responsible for carrying out the State emergency management program. Each county and Baltimore City must prepare an emergency preparedness plan for responding to an emergency that involves hazardous materials or controlled hazardous substances. Under the Comprehensive Flood Management Program in the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), each

subdivision must prepare a flood management plan. There is a Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program within MDE. Subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works, MDE may provide grants to subdivisions for flood control and watershed management capital projects and for capital costs related to the design, purchase, and installation of automated flood warning projects, subject to specified conditions. Each project must be undertaken as part of a comprehensive flood management plan prepared and adopted by the subdivisions and must be consistent with any State or inter-jurisdictional flood management plan. To receive grants for automated flood warning projects, affected local governing bodies must: (1) adopt a specific and compatible response plan which has been coordinated with local emergency management authorities and reviewed and approved by MDE and MEMA; and (2) provide for financial and other commitments to properly operate and maintain the project.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Emergency Management Agency; Maryland Department of the Environment; Anne Arundel, Garrett, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 28, 2001
jm/jr Revised – House Third Reader – March 23, 2001

Analysis by: Lesley Frymier

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510