

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 198

(Delegate Elmore)

Environmental Matters

Budget and Taxation

Somerset County - Fire Company - Appropriations

This bill increases the amount of funds that the Somerset County Commissioners are required to appropriate annually to the volunteer fire companies in Somerset County for fiscal 2011 through 2015. The required appropriation for fiscal 2015 will remain in effect for subsequent years unless altered by future legislation.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Somerset County expenditures will increase by \$7,350 in FY 2011 and by \$38,650 in FY 2015. Revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Exhibit 1 details the increase in the appropriations for each volunteer fire company for fiscal 2011 through 2015.

Current Law: The public local laws of Somerset County require the county commissioners to appropriate funds to organized volunteer fire companies in the county. Appropriations made by the commissioners to volunteer fire companies were last changed by Chapter 66 of 2005, which increased funding for fiscal 2006 through 2010.

Chapter 66 also required that the fiscal 2010 funding levels remain the same for each year thereafter, unless changed by legislation.

Background: There are eight organized volunteer fire companies in Somerset County. The county commissioners have provided funding to volunteer fire companies for over 33 years.

Local Fiscal Effect: Fiscal 2010 appropriations to the volunteer fire companies are not affected by this bill. As shown in Exhibit 1, total county appropriations to volunteer fire companies will increase by \$7,350 in fiscal 2011 and by \$38,650 in fiscal 2015 and subsequent years.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 378 (Senator Stoltzfus) - Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Somerset County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 8, 2009
ncs/mwc Revised - House Third Reader - March 23, 2009

Analysis by: Scott P. Gates

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510

Exhibit 1
Change in Appropriation for Somerset County Volunteer Fire Departments
Fiscal 2010-2015

	<u>FY</u> <u>2010</u>	<u>FY</u> <u>2011</u>	<u>FY</u> <u>2012</u>	<u>FY</u> <u>2013</u>	<u>FY</u> <u>2014</u>	<u>FY</u> <u>2015</u>
Crisfield VFC						
Current Appropriation	\$58,700	\$58,700	\$58,700	\$58,700	\$58,700	\$58,700
Appropriation Under HB 198	58,700	60,200	61,750	63,300	64,900	66,550
Change	0	1,500	3,050	4,600	6,200	7,850
Princess Anne VFC						
Current Appropriation	58,700	58,700	58,700	58,700	58,700	58,700
Appropriation Under HB 198	58,700	60,200	61,750	63,300	64,900	66,550
Change	0	1,500	3,050	4,600	6,200	7,850
Marion VFC						
Current Appropriation	37,350	37,350	37,350	37,350	37,350	37,350
Appropriation Under HB 198	37,350	38,300	39,300	40,300	41,350	42,400
Change	0	950	1,950	2,950	4,000	5,050
Deal Island - Chance VFC						
Current Appropriation	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500
Appropriation Under HB 198	32,500	33,350	34,200	35,100	36,000	36,900
Change	0	850	1,700	2,600	3,500	4,400
Ewell FD						
Current Appropriation	25,900	25,900	25,900	25,900	25,900	25,900
Appropriation Under HB 198	25,900	26,550	27,250	27,950	28,650	29,400
Change	0	650	1,350	2,050	2,750	3,500
Mt. Vernon VFC						
Current Appropriation	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500
Appropriation Under HB 198	32,500	33,350	34,200	35,100	36,000	36,900
Change	0	850	1,700	2,600	3,500	4,400
Tylerton VFC						
Current Appropriation	8,050	8,050	8,050	8,050	8,050	8,050
Appropriation Under HB 198	8,050	8,250	8,500	8,750	9,000	9,250
Change	0	200	450	700	950	1,200
Fairmount VFC						
Current Appropriation	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500	32,500
Appropriation Under HB 198	32,500	33,350	34,200	35,100	36,000	36,900
Change	0	850	1,700	2,600	3,500	4,400
Total Current Appropriation	\$286,200	\$286,200	\$286,200	\$286,200	\$286,200	\$286,200
Total Proposed Appropriation	\$286,200	\$293,550	\$301,150	\$308,900	\$316,800	\$324,850
Total Change	\$0	\$7,350	\$14,950	\$22,700	\$30,600	\$38,650

Source: Department of Legislative Services