

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 18

2 INTRODUCED BY ZOOK

3 BY REQUEST OF THE OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

4
5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT INCREASING THE STATUTORY APPROPRIATION FOR AN
6 EMERGENCY OR DISASTER DUE TO FIRE; AMENDING SECTION 10-3-312, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN
7 IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

8
9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10
11 **Section 1.** Section 10-3-312, MCA, is amended to read:

12 **"10-3-312. Maximum expenditure by governor -- appropriation.** (1) (a) Whenever an emergency
13 or disaster is declared by the governor, there is statutorily appropriated to the office of the governor, as
14 provided in 17-7-502, and the governor is authorized to expend from the general fund, an amount not to
15 exceed \$2 million in any biennium.

16 (b) Whenever an emergency or disaster due to fire is declared by the governor, there is statutorily
17 appropriated to the office of the governor, as provided in 17-7-502, and the governor is authorized to
18 expend from the general fund, an amount not to exceed ~~\$3~~ \$10 million in any biennium. The amount
19 appropriated in this subsection (b) may be combined with the amount appropriated in subsection (1)(a) for
20 an emergency or disaster due to fire.

21 (2) In the event of the recovery of money expended under this section, the spending authority must
22 be reinstated to a level reflecting the recovery.

23 (3) If a disaster is declared by the president of the United States, there is statutorily appropriated
24 to the office of the governor, as provided in 17-7-502, and ~~he~~ the governor is authorized to expend from
25 the general fund, an amount not to exceed \$500,000 during the biennium to meet the state's share of the
26 individual and family grant programs as provided in 42 U.S.C. 5178."

27
28 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

29 -END-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for HB0018, as introduced

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

This act increases the statutory appropriation for an emergency or disaster due to fire from \$3 million to \$10 million in any biennium.

ASSUMPTIONS:

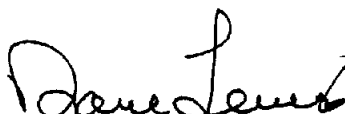
1. This bill will have no fiscal impact on total general fund expenditures for fire suppression. The increase in statutory appropriation authority will be offset by an equal reduction in general fund supplemental and other appropriation expenditures for fire suppression expenditures in any biennium.
2. The current law limit on statutory appropriation for an emergency or disaster due to fire is insufficient to cover fire suppression expenditures during a major fire season. Therefore, each major fire season carries a high risk for the necessity of a special legislative session specifically to approve a fire suppression supplemental appropriation.
3. The cost of a two-day special legislative session would be about \$76,000 general fund (\$38,000 per day) if costs remained the same as the actual costs experienced during the December 1993 Special Session. There are additional costs to state agencies involved in planning for and calling the special session.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the state.

LONG-RANGE EFFECTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

The bill may have the effect of avoiding future two-day special legislative sessions for fire suppression costs. It is estimated that each of these sessions would cost about \$76,000 general fund.

 1-7-95
DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR DATE
Office of Budget and Program Planning


TOM ZOOK, PRIMARY SPONSOR DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0018, as introduced

HB 18

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18 expend from the general fund, an amount not to exceed ~~\$3~~ \$10 million in any biennium. The amount
19 appropriated in this subsection (b) may be combined with the amount appropriated in subsection (1)(a) for
20 an emergency or disaster due to fire.

21 (2) In the event of the recovery of money expended under this section, the spending authority must
22 be reinstated to a level reflecting the recovery.

23 (3) If a disaster is declared by the president of the United States, there is statutorily appropriated
24 to the office of the governor, as provided in 17-7-502, and ~~he~~ the governor is authorized to expend from
25 the general fund, an amount not to exceed \$500,000 during the biennium to meet the state's share of the
26 individual and family grant programs as provided in 42 U.S.C. 5178."

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17 appropriated to the office of the governor, as provided in 17-7-502, and the governor is authorized to
18 expend from the general fund, an amount not to exceed ~~\$2~~ \$10 million in any biennium. The amount
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20 an emergency or disaster due to fire.

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