## **Legislative Analysis**



## FIREFIGHTER TRAINING GRANT FUNDING

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

Senate Bill 833 (H-2)

**Sponsors: Senator Goeff Hansen Committee: Appropriations** 

**Complete to: 12/06/16** 

Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

## **SUMMARY:**

Senate Bill 833 (H-2) amends the Firefighters Training Council Act (Public Act 291 of 1966) in the following ways:

- Specifies that "firefighter training" refers to a program eligible to receive training grants from the Fireworks Safety Fund.
- Alters the definition of "firefighter training" to include the following activities (activities that training grants may be expended for): emergency medical service, hazardous material response, technical rescue, airport rescue and firefighting, fire inspection, fire investigation, and fire safety education. The bill also stipulates that firefighter training includes, but is not limited to, training required for Fire Fighter I and Fire Fighter II standards under the "Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Oualifications" National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 1001.
- Eliminates the Firefighters Training Fund as the source for grant funding to accomplish the goals of the Firefighter Training Council Act.
- Stipulates that firefighter training shall be funded from the Fireworks Safety Fund created by Section 11 of PA 256 of 2011 (the Fireworks Safety Fund consists of funds collected from Fireworks Safety Fees created by Section 8 of PA 256 of 2011).
- Allows the State Fire Marshall to deny requests for grant funding not meeting the requirements of the Firefighters Training Council Act.
- Undesignated grant monies will be redistributed using an application process, rather than the statutory redistribution formula currently in use. Undesignated money not redistributed through the application process will be deposited into the Fireworks Safety Fund.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The bill would likely have a nominal fiscal impact on the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs and an indeterminate fiscal impact on local units of government. The creation of an application process for the redistribution of grant funding will create a fiscal impact for local governments. Counties currently receive redistributed grant funds based on a formula, which bases redistribution 70% on the population of the county and 30% on the square mileage of the county. Under the bill, counties will have to apply for a portion of the redistribution. This change would likely increase administrative costs associated

House Fiscal Agency Page 1 of 2

with the application process for both local governments and for the Firefighter Training Council.

Changing the funding source for firefighter training grants from the Firefighters Training Fund to the Fireworks Safety Fund should not create any fiscal changes, as the bill codifies existing departmental practice by designating Fireworks Safety Fees to finance firefighter training.

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House Fiscal Agency SB 833 Page 2 of 2

<sup>■</sup> This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.