

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7178

BILL NUMBER: SB 472

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 10, 2007

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Public Safety Fund Management

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Wyss

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL** **IMPACT:** State & Local
 X **DEDICATED**
 FEDERAL

Summary of Legislation: *Indiana Homeland Security Foundation:* This bill requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide staff support to the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation. The bill removes administration of the foundation from the duties of the DHS Division of Preparedness and Training.

Arson Investigation Financial Assistance Fund: The bill authorizes the DHS Division of Fire and Building Safety to receive money from the statewide Arson Investigation Financial Assistance Fund for purposes of fire investigation. The bill removes the authority of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) to distribute money from the arson fund. The bill authorizes the SFM to accept gifts for deposit in the arson fund.

Fire and Building Services Fund: The bill abolishes the Firefighting and Emergency Equipment Revolving Loan Fund and transfers money in the fund to the Fire and Building Services Fund for statewide fire training. It requires payment of loans outstanding from the revolving fund to the DHS for deposit in the Fire and Building Services Fund for statewide fire training.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Indiana Homeland Security Foundation:* The bill removes the responsibility to provide staffing from the DHS Division of Preparedness and Training; however, the DHS is still required to provide staffing. This requirement will not affect DHS overall expenditures because the DHS currently provides staff to the Foundation.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Fire and Building Services Fund:* The bill abolishes the Firefighting and Emergency Equipment Revolving Loan Fund and transfers money in the fund to the Fire and Building Services Fund. It requires payment of loans outstanding from the revolving fund to be paid to the DHS for deposit in the Fire and Building Services Fund for statewide fire training. Currently, the DHS has 4 entities that have outstanding loans from the revolving fund. The total debt owed is about \$50,000. The bill replaces the revolving fund with a fund to be used by the DHS for training.

The Fire and Building Services Fund also receives revenue from fire insurance policy premium taxes and other fees collected by DHS.

Arson Investigation Financial Assistance Fund: The bill authorizes the DHS Division of Fire and Building Safety to receive money from the statewide Arson Investigation Financial Assistance Fund for purposes of fire investigation.

The DHS currently administers the fund. Under existing law, the fund may be used to provide financial assistance to prosecuting attorneys; local police departments; the Indiana State Police; arson task forces; and fire departments that have arson investigating teams or arson task forces. The bill allows the fund to also be used by the DHS Division of Fire and Building Safety for purposes of fire investigation. Adding an additional entity that may use the fund could reduce revenue available for existing entities. However, no funds have been distributed to local units or the State Police for at least five years. The bill removes the authority of the State Fire Marshal to distribute money from the arson fund. The bill authorizes the SFM to accept gifts for deposit in the arson fund. As of January 2007, there was \$22,000 in the fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DHS.

Local Agencies Affected:

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