

Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 19-3767/1	Introduction Number AB-0380	
Description federal emergency management assistance payments to municipalities		
Fiscal Effect		
State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Towns <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <u>Special Districts</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.465(3)(a), 20.465(3)(m)		
Agency/Prepared By DMA/ Anna Oehler (608) 242-3155	Authorized Signature Anna Oehler (608) 242-3155	Date 10/3/2019

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DMA 10/3/2019

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Description federal emergency management assistance payments to municipalities					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the adjutant general to provide training on how to apply for federal emergency management assistance using SAM.gov, the federal System for Award Management website, and must attempt, in due diligence, to ensure that all local units of government have created an account with the website by June 30, 2021. This bill also requires that the adjutant general issue emergency assistance payments within 14 days after the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved a project and distributed federal emergency assistance funding to the state, the adjutant general has received all state and federal forms from the local unit of government, and the local unit of government has fulfilled all other federal requirements. Finally, this bill also requires that the adjutant general must provide an option for local units of government to conduct all emergency management correspondence via e-mail and to receive payments from the Division of Emergency Management via electronic funds transfer or direct deposit.

SAM.Gov Registration:

SAM.gov requires an entity to log in to their site every 13 months (395 days) or the account will become inactive. This requirement is required for all federal grants or sub-grantees and is not unique to the Department of Military Affairs FEMA grants. Additionally, the Department cannot mandate or enforce participation by all local units of government and special districts unless they receive a federally-funded grant from the Department. Many of the local units of government may not want to register if they do not have the need to do so during the biennium.

Registration on SAM.gov is required to be eligible to be awarded contracts by the Federal Government, apply for assistance awards from the Federal Government or if directed to register by a government official. Local units of government must have the following information DUNS Number, Legal Business Name, Address, Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), Taxpayer Name, a Contractor and Government Entity (CAGE) Code and Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to complete a registration on SAM.gov.

The Department provides just-in-time training to local units of government on the steps and documents/information required to register in SAM.gov and is provided at the time of a disaster. This reduces the administrative burden of local governmental units and special districts from registering for something they may not need. This assistance occurs at disaster applicant briefings where Department staff are already onsite, through informational materials provided at applicant briefings, upon receipt of a disaster application, and through direct assistance, when requested. The agency maintains a SAM.gov registration guide, posted on the Department's website, with a step-by-step explanation of the registration process to applicants:
https://dma.wi.gov/DMA/divisions/wem/egrants/SAM.gov_Registration.pdf.

14-Day Payment Processing:

This bill requires a 14-day payment for the federal portion of public assistance grants approved by FEMA.

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act and Emergency Assistance, Publication L. 93-288 as amended in 42 U.S.C. 5 121 et seq), requires the payments to be made as soon as the contract, proper invoice, receipts and acceptance documents or any other agreements are matched. A 14-day payment processing timeframe may be prohibitive by reducing the time that the Department has available to review and administer the file which reduces the due diligence the Department has in accepting the pass-through obligations of a public assistance grant. The obligation of the State is to ensure that local units of government have properly documented their expenses and obligations under federal and state regulations and then ensure that the documentation is available and complete from FEMA. Not all projects are one hundred percent complete at the time FEMA inspects the project and can cause a partial payment risk if FEMA deobligates projects or later deems something ineligible due to scope expansion. If the State paid the amount obligated by FEMA immediately upon obligation and later deems

something ineligible or outside of the scope of the project, then the State is required to pay FEMA back immediately – even before receiving payment from the local governmental unit.

Electronic Processing:

The bill requires electronic paperwork acceptance and payment. The majority of paperwork is submitted electronically to the department for review and processing. The State already has the ability to process electronic payments upon request and receipt of a required electronic payment form.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Section 6 ()323.30(2) (c) of the bill is requiring the local unit of government to only fulfill federal requirements but not any state requirements. This may cause confusion or concern when processing payments where the state has required something that may be considered in addition to a federal requirement.