HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 338   **DATE:** February 22, 1999
       Version: As introduced

       Authors: P. Larsen and others

       Subject: Creating an emergency management grant program for counties and cities

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1   **Director.** Defines "director" to mean the director of the emergency management division of the department of public safety for the purposes of the chapter (12).

2   **Emergency management grant program.**

   Subd. 1. Grant program. Establishes an emergency management grant program to provide counties and cities grants to help them enhance the effectiveness of their emergency management offices.

   Subd. 2. Rule development. Directs the director to consult with the association of Minnesota emergency managers in developing grant program rules.

   Subd. 3. Eligibility. Specifies what a county must do to be eligible for a grant:

       employ a county or city emergency manager who is certified by the director;

       submit a written plan on how the grant will enhance the county or city emergency management office; and

       apply for and be approved for the grant before spending money on the enhancements.

   Subd. 4. Grant application. Requires a grant application to be submitted according to established procedures and to include a specific plan description. Provides for the director to approve the grant application if the application is adequate and there are funds. Allows the director to require plan changes or to reject a grant application.

   Subd. 5. Qualifying uses. Provides for the director to determine if the plan will enable the county or city to enhance the effectiveness of its emergency management office. Permits a city or county to use the money to train the local office director.

   Subd. 6. Grant amount. (a) Grants may not exceed the lesser of: (1) the amount requested in the application, or

       (2) the county's or city's share of program funds. A county's or city's share is based on population.

(b) Permits only one-half of the counties and cities eligible under each population category in (a) (2) to be awarded grants. Requires grants to be served on a first-come-first-served basis. A county or city not receiving a grant is eligible for priority the next year.

(c) Permits the director, after a time to be determined by the director, to reallocate undistributed funds to other qualifying cities and counties.

(d) Requires use of latest federal census data to determine county or city population.