

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 2128
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 20, 2014

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Subject: Disaster relief

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Overview

This bill creates a disaster response contingency account to automatically appropriate money to the Department of Public Safety (DPS) when the legislature is not in session in order to match Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) disaster aid to the state, American Indian tribes, and local units of government. The bill does not fund the contingency account.

Section

- 1 Appropriation.** Technical.
- 2 Disaster response contingency account.** Establishes a contingency account in the general fund to partially match FEMA disaster aid to state agencies and political subdivision when the legislature is not in session. The amount appropriated would be 60 percent of the required state and local match. (Assuming FEMA aid is equivalent to 75% of a recipient's eligible damage costs, 60% of the remaining 25% would be 15%). Appropriated dollars would not be available until eligible local units of government and American Indian tribes certify that they will pay for 40% (40% of 25% = 10%) of eligible damage costs that are not reimbursed by FEMA. Authorizes DPS to use contingency account funds (i.e., cash) to match FEMA assistance for capital-investment-eligible projects. Requires the governor's budget proposal to include sufficient appropriations to the contingency account.