

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6741

BILL NUMBER: HB 1085

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 29, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Public Employee Paid Leave.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Pelath

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides for paid leave for state employees and police reserve officers when responding to a disaster declared either by the Red Cross or the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Effective Date: July 1, 2011.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The impact to state and local governments will depend on the number and nature of disasters to which state employees or police reserve officers respond. No disasters were declared in 2010; in 2009, one disaster was declared for severe storms and flooding and one for a winter storm. In 2008, three were declared for severe storms and flooding.

Background. A state employee or reserve police officer who is called to service must be covered by the state agency's compensation and benefit plans as if the employee were working for the state agency. A state employee who is asked to volunteer the employee's time during a nondisaster event for the DHS must be covered by the compensation plans by the agency for which the employee is volunteering. A state employee who is asked to work a nondisaster event by the DHS must be covered for disability as if the employee were working for the agency by which the employee is employed.

A state employee or police reserve officer who is certified by the Red Cross or can be called up by the DHS must have on file with the state agency or municipality by which the employee or police reserve officer is employed a letter certifying that the employee or police reserve officer is eligible to respond to a disaster or emergency. An employee or police reserve officer must be available for activation for an emergency declared

by the Red Cross or the DHS.

A state employee who can be activated and is required to obtain additional training approved by the DHS must be granted paid leave for the training at the employee's normal rate.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: See *Explanation of State Expenditures* above.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: All state agencies that employ certified disaster service volunteers.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties, cities, and towns.

Information Sources: DHS.

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