

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7054**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1365

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 21, 2011

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Volunteer Fire Department Recovery of Costs.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Dodge

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Sen. Zakas

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill allows a volunteer fire department to recover attorney's fees and costs incurred by the department in an action to recover unpaid service charges.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2011.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** Currently, volunteer fire departments are able to file civil actions to recover unpaid service costs against responsible parties involved in specified fires the volunteer fire department responds to and assists in some capacity to extinguish, contain, or clean up. This bill will allow volunteer fire departments to also recover additional costs of maintaining civil actions; namely attorney fees and other costs associated with the civil action. This may increase revenue local fire departments receive; however, actual increases are unknown and would depend on the decision of local volunteer fire departments to seek civil remedy and judgment issued in the civil case.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Volunteer fire departments.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.