

Department of Planning and Budget 2001 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number SB1416

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron Marye

3. Committee Passed Both Houses

4. Title Alternative Water Supply Assistance Fund

5. Summary/Purpose: The bill creates a non-reverting fund called the Alternative Water Supply Assistance Fund in order to provide grants and loans to localities for the purpose of entering into agreements with businesses and individuals to harvest and collect rainwater for uses determined as necessary by the locality (i.e. irrigation). The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) shall administer the fund and establish a process to determine which areas and localities shall qualify for the grants and loans. The bill requires DHCD to issue regulations and provide technical assistance to localities and other organizations. The bill prohibits any monies from the fund to be used to construct gutters or other devices for simply diverting rainwater and not for harvesting it.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are final: See Item 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: Yes, see Item 8.

8. Fiscal implications: Implementation of the Alternative Water Supply Assistance program established by this legislation requires a budget amendment. In addition, the grant program places an administrative burden on the agency in proportion to the size of the program. The agency has indicated that it could use existing staff resources to support a grant program of up to \$500,000. Any program above this level of funding would require an additional position and related support costs estimated at \$50,000 a year.

If the bill were signed into law without a budget amendment appropriating money to the fund, the agency would have no cause for implementing the grant program. The Senate proposed an appropriation of \$25,000 to the grant program, which failed without passage of a budget.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Department of Housing and Community Development, and localities.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 3/14/01 / mst

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade

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