

Department of Planning and Budget 2004 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB451

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron McQuigg

3. Committee General Laws

4. Title Statewide Fire Prevention Code enforcement

5. Summary/Purpose: The bill clarifies that the State Fire Marshal may establish procedures for the enforcement and administration of the Statewide Fire Prevention Code in jurisdictions that do not enforce the code at the local level. In addition, the bill authorizes the State Fire Marshal, subject to the approval of the Board of Housing and Community Development, to recover enforcement and administration costs in those jurisdictions for which he serves as the enforcement authority.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are final:

6a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2003-04	-	-	-
2004-05	166,000	2.50	NGF
2005-06	160,500	2.50	NGF
2006-07	160,500	2.50	NGF
2007-08	160,500	2.50	NGF
2008-09	160,500	2.50	NGF
2009-10	160,500	2.50	NGF

6b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2003-04	-	-	-
2004-05	166,000	2.50	NGF
2005-06	160,500	2.50	NGF
2006-07	160,500	2.50	NGF
2007-08	160,500	2.50	NGF
2008-09	160,500	2.50	NGF
2009-10	160,500	2.50	NGF

7. Budget amendment necessary: No. The appropriation has been included in the introduced budget bill (HB 30).

- 8. Fiscal implications:** The bill would have a fiscal impact on the Department of Housing and Community Development. Specifically, the bill provides that the State Fire Marshal, subject to the approval of the Board of Housing and Community Development, the authority to charge fees to recover the costs of the administering and enforcing the Statewide Fire Prevention Code in those localities that do not have local fire marshals for such purpose. The localities that have local fire marshals already have the authority to charges fees for their inspections.

The fiscal impact reflects 50 percent of the costs of additional resources to inspect high-risk buildings in areas where the State Fire Marshal has responsibility. The other half of the costs will be funded from the general fund. The Governor's introduced budget (HB 30) contains the funding for this purpose. The funding will allow five additional fire safety inspectors to enforce the Statewide Fire Safety Code in buildings such as hospitals, private schools, private college dormitories, night clubs, and high-rise state government buildings which are currently not mandated to be inspected.

The fiscal impact only shows the costs that would be generated from the fee revenue, which would cover half the costs of the five new fire safety inspectors. While the bill provides broad authority for the State Fire Marshal to charge fees, the fiscal impact reflects the intention of the State Fire Marshal to use the fee only for half the costs of the five fire safety inspectors needed to inspect high-risk buildings. The fee itself would be based on a fee schedule that would depend on how much time and how complicated an inspection will be. The fee for a small private school will be much lower than a large hospital or a private college with several college dormitories. The average fee charged is expected to be about \$250 per year.

- 9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Housing and Community Development.

10. Technical amendment necessary: None.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 01/28/04 / mst

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade