

Department of Planning and Budget 2001 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number** SB1416

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

2. **Patron** Marye

3. **Committee** General Laws

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 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 preliminary:** See Item 8.

7. **Budget amendment necessary:** See Item 8.

8. **Fiscal implications:** The administration of the fund would impose an additional administrative burden on the agency. The bill requires DHCD to issue regulations and provide technical assistance to localities and other organizations. The size of the fund and the number of loans and grants issued would ultimately determine the fiscal impact on the agency. In the Senate version of the budget (SB 800), the fund would receive an appropriation of \$25,000, which would impose a small administrative impact on DHCD that could be absorbed by the agency. However, if the funding provided is much larger, then the increased volume of loans and grants would require additional resources for the agency. Considering the current size of the fund as provided in SB 800, no budget amendment is necessary.

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

10. **Technical amendment necessary:** No.

11. **Other comments:** None.

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cc: Secretary of Commerce and Trade

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