

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 2257 HB	Title: Back country search & rescue
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Estimated Cash Receipts

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Military Department	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Total \$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25		2025-27		2027-29		
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	
Local Gov. Courts							
Loc School dist-SPI							
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.						
Local Gov. Total							

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Office of the Secretary of State	Fiscal note not available											
Military Department	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.											
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	
Local Gov. Courts										
Loc School dist-SPI										
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.									
Local Gov. Total										

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Office of the Secretary of State	Fiscal note not available								
Military Department	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

NONE

Prepared by: Val Terre, OFM	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date Published: Preliminary 1/22/2024
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Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2257 HB	Title: Back country search & rescue	Agency: 245-Military Department
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Martha Wehling	Phone: 360-786-7067	Date: 01/14/2024
Agency Preparation: Regan Hesse	Phone: 253-512-7698	Date: 01/19/2024
Agency Approval: Regan Hesse	Phone: 253-512-7698	Date: 01/19/2024
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date: 01/19/2024

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

Section 1 adds definitions of "Back country search and rescue" and "search and rescue organization."

Section 2 adds to the declaration of the Emergency Management Division's policy and purpose an intent that the division provide back country search and rescue activities.

Section 3 adds a section to RCW 38.52 that establishes a new back country search and rescue grant program, and directs the Military Department to administer it. Search and rescue organizations engaged in back country search and rescue and political subdivisions which budget for or incur costs related to back country search and rescue not reimbursable through other mechanisms may receive funds from this grant program, subject to availability of funds appropriated for this purpose. Section 3 also establishes a new back country search and rescue account, which is appropriated and may receive donations.

The department currently does not have a search and rescue grant program nor does it have the personnel to perform the workload anticipated to establish, implement, and manage the grant program. The work needed to implement the grant program as directed includes developing grant requirements and prioritization scheme, developing forms for requests/proposals for funding, coordinating with partners in the search and rescue community to develop and scope the program, training and outreach to eligible recipients regarding grant eligibility and processes, contracting with awardees, tracking deliverables, managing billing and reimbursements, and providing technical assistance to awardees.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

This bill authorizes the agency to receive donations into a new back country search and rescue account. The value of these donations is indeterminate.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Per Section 3, this program is subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose; therefore costs are indeterminate.

If the Military Department were to run a mature back country search and rescue grant program, costs are estimated follows:

Object A (Salaries): \$70,800/year for 1 Emergency Management Program Specialist 2 to serve as the grant coordinator

Object B (Benefits): \$33,984/year, estimated at 48% of salaries

Object E (Goods and Services): \$5000/year for computer, phone, shared services and central services costs

Object G (Travel): \$3,254/year

Object N (Grants): Unknown

Object T (Indirect Costs): \$16,956/year

Total annual known costs: \$129,994 GFS

The cost of the grants themselves would be provided out of the new back country search and rescue account.

Alternatively, if the intend of the legislation is that the Emergency Management Division is empowered to receive occasional donated funds, and use those funds to provide grants to eligible search and rescue organizations, the staffing costs would be significantly lower.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

The bill provides that the department may adopt rules but does not require it.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 2257 HB

Title: Back country search & rescue

Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

Legislation Impacts:

Cities: Indeterminate revenue from potential back country search and rescue grants; costs associated with grant application.

Counties: Same as above.

Special Districts:

Specific jurisdictions only:

Variance occurs due to:

Part II: Estimates

No fiscal impacts.

Expenditures represent one-time costs:

Legislation provides local option: Local governments may choose to apply for back country search and rescue grants.

Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: Grant funds available; number of applications from local governments

Estimated revenue impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Alice Zillah	Phone: 360-725-5035	Date: 01/17/2024
Leg. Committee Contact: Martha Wehling	Phone: 360-786-7067	Date: 01/14/2024
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 01/17/2024
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date: 01/18/2024

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.

Sec. 1 amends RCW 38.52.010. "Back country search and rescue" is a subset of search and rescue and includes locating lost, injured, or deceased persons in remote areas. "Local director" means the director of a local organization of emergency management or emergency services. "Search and rescue organization" means a Washington domestic nonprofit corporation or a group of emergency workers recognized by and working with the local director, whose primary purpose is search and rescue, has its principal place of business established in a political subdivision of the state of Washington, and is formally recognized by the local emergency management organization of that political subdivision as being available for participation in search and rescue activities consistent with RCW 38.52.400.

Sec. 3 adds a new section to RCW 38.52. Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the back country search and rescue grant program is established. The back country search and rescue account is created in the state treasury. Expenditures from the account may only be used by the department to provide grants to: (a) Search and rescue organizations for anticipated and incurred back country search and rescue costs by search and rescue volunteers, including planning, equipment, training, exercise, and operations; and (b) Political subdivisions which incur or budget for costs related to back country search and rescue operations that are not available for reimbursement through another mechanism.

B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS

Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

The legislation would have indeterminate expenditure impacts for local governments. Local governments which apply for back country search and rescue grants would incur costs associated with the application process, including staff time, legal consultation, and city council or county commissioners' approval. These costs cannot be estimated at this time.

C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

The legislation would result in indeterminate revenue for local governments.

Cities and counties would be eligible to receive grants for costs related to back country search and rescue efforts that are not available for reimbursement through another mechanism. There is no information about the amount of grant funds available, or how often local governments would seek to apply for funding.