

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

127th General Assembly of Ohio

Ohio Legislative Service Commission
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BILL: **S.B. 84** DATE: **October 2, 2007**
STATUS: **As Introduced** SPONSOR: **Sen. Schaffer**
LOCAL IMPACT STATEMENT REQUIRED: **Yes** **Corrected after initial review**
CONTENTS: **Emergency management financing**

State Fiscal Highlights

- The bill has no readily discernible fiscal implications for state revenues and expenditures.

Local Fiscal Highlights

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	FY 2007	FY 2008	FUTURE YEARS
City of Lancaster			
Revenues	- 0 -	- 0 -	- 0 -
Expenditures	Increase estimated at \$9,000 to cover county EMA contract costs	Increase estimated at \$9,000 to cover county EMA contract costs	Increase estimated at \$9,000 to cover county EMA contract costs
Fairfield County			
Revenues	Gain estimated at \$9,000 from Lancaster contract payment	Gain estimated at \$9,000 from Lancaster contract payment	Gain estimated at \$9,000 from Lancaster contract payment
Expenditures	Potential increase, up to available revenues	Potential increase, up to available revenues	Potential increase, up to available revenues

Note: For most local governments, the fiscal year is the calendar year. The school district fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

- City of Lancaster.** LSC fiscal staff estimates that the bill will require the City of Lancaster to pay Fairfield County around \$9,000 annually for the provision of emergency management services.
- Fairfield County.** As a result of the bill, LSC fiscal staff estimates that Fairfield County will collect around \$9,000 annually from the City of Lancaster for the provision of emergency management services, and that those moneys would in turn likely be used for emergency management equipment and communications systems and/or to fulfill federal grant matching requirements.



Detailed Fiscal Analysis

Dispute between Fairfield County and City of Lancaster

Nature of dispute

This bill clarifies the circumstances under which a political subdivision is required to pay for contracted emergency management services. By all accounts, the bill is intended to specifically address a dispute between Fairfield County and the City of Lancaster, wherein the latter has asserted that it does not have to pay the former for the provision of emergency management services.

In years past, the Fairfield County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security has had a contract in place with the City of Lancaster under which it provided emergency management services, i.e., planning for, and responding to, all-hazards emergencies. To date, Fairfield County apparently has never sought payment for those services, but wishes to do so at this time, and the City of Lancaster has indicated that it is not required to pay for those services. The bill would compel the City of Lancaster to pay Fairfield County for future contracted services.

Estimated service delivery cost

Earlier this year, all emergency management agency directors statewide received an e-mail from the Emergency Management Association of Ohio (EMO), the intent of which was to approximate an emergency management "cost" per citizen for federal grant application purposes. Response was voluntary. Based on those responses, the EMO determined that the statewide average emergency management expense per person was about 25 cents.

Using the above-noted EMO average cost per person, and the City of Lancaster's population (according to the U.S. Census Bureau, it was 35,914 in 2003), LSC fiscal staff estimates that the annual payment for Fairfield County's emergency management services will cost the City of Lancaster around \$9,000. It appears that these moneys would likely be used by Fairfield County to fund new emergency management equipment and communications systems and/or to fulfill federal grant cash match requirements.

LSC fiscal staff: Jeffrey R. Kasler, Budget Analyst

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