
MEMORANDUM

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To: Natural Resources Subcommittee

From: Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office
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Date: 2/23/2016

Subject: HB 4113 A
Work Session Recommendations

House Bill 4113 establishes the 11 to 15 member Task Force on Drought Emergency Response as a non-legislative task force charged with researching and evaluating potential tools to prepare and respond to drought emergencies, including identifying options to minimize the impact of drought. The task force is required to submit a report to an interim legislative committee by November 1, 2016. The report should include recommendations for improving communication to raise awareness of drought conditions, as well as efforts to mitigate and adapt to drought. The task force sunsets on December 31, 2016.

The bill requires the Water Resources Department to provide staff support to the the task force. In the fiscal impact statement for the bill, the Water Resource Department estimates the need for a six-month, limited duration position position to provide research services, report writing, and meeting coordination at a cost of \$38,628. In addition, WRD estimates that the expenses for actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by the task force would be \$8,728. No funding for these costs was included in the bill.

Recommended Changes to Bill:

Legislative Fiscal Office recommends the adoption of the -A2 amendment. The amended bill would provide a General Fund appropriation of \$25,000 to the Water Resources Department to address the expenses for the actual and necessary travel and other expenses incurred by the task force and to defer a portion of the estimated additional costs of staf support to the task force.

Motion:

Move the LFO recommendation to adopt the –A2 amendment to HB 4113

HB 4113 Final Subcommittee Action:

Final Motion:

Move HB 4113 to the full committee with a “do pass” recommendation, as amended.