

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 6: Department of the State Fire Marshal 2023 Fire Season**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Public Safety Subcommittee  
Carrier: Representative Lewis

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The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means acknowledge receipt of a report on the 2023 fire season by the Department of the State Fire Marshal.

The Department of the State Fire Marshal submitted a report on its preliminary expenses for the 2023 fire season. The Department responded to seven conflagrations during the season for an estimated cost of \$9.5 million. The Department reports an additional \$3 million in expenses for the 20 pre-positioning and immediate response mobilizations, bringing the gross 2023 fire season cost to \$12.5 million. The Department anticipates approximately \$1.2 million of the cost to be eligible for federal reimbursement. The Department's costs will also be partially offset by an existing \$2 million General Fund appropriated in 2023-25 for wildfire readiness, response, and pre-positioning.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.