

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 1423

**PRINTER'S NO.** 2142

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

Volunteer Companies Loan Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

June 16, 2014

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Mensch

## **DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

Senate Bill 1423 amends Chapter 73 of Title 35 (Health and Safety) to specify that loans for heavy rescue trucks may be up to \$300,000. It also extends the loan payback period from 20 to 25 years, for any loan in excess of \$100,000, except for those loans for establishing or modernizing facilities.

The change to the provisions relating to loans for heavy rescue trucks is necessary to correct a statutory inconsistency between Act 129 of 2013 which had increased the maximum loan amounts by 200% and Act 134, the Farm Safety and Occupational Health Act, which allows the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to make loans under that program for heavy duty rescue equipment in a maximum amount of \$150,000. Act 129 increased the maximum loan amount for heavy duty rescue vehicles from \$100,000 to \$200,000. However, under Act 134's provisions, the application of a 200% increase would result in a maximum loan amount of \$300,000.

Therefore, this bill corrects the discrepancy and changes the language in Act 129 of 2013 to reflect the 200% increase to the \$150,000 maximum previously provided in Act 134, resulting in a \$300,000 maximum loan amount for heavy duty rescue trucks.

This bill also repeals Section 11 of Act 134, the Farm Safety and Occupational Health Act, to eliminate the conflicting language in it.

The act takes effect immediately.

## **FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact will result to the Commonwealth.