

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 1122

**PRINTER NO.** 1699

**AMOUNT**

\$538,000,000

**FUND**

Federal Funds

**DATE INTRODUCED**

April 17, 2020

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Pittman

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 1122 amends Title 35 (Health and Safety) to establish the COVID-19 Crisis Fire Company and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program.

This bill establishes the COVID-19 Crisis Fire and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program within the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to provide grants to fire and EMS companies that provide services during the emergency declaration.

Senate Bill 1122 requires PEMA to provide grants to fire and EMS companies in the same manner and amount in which funds were provided under sections 7813 and 7823 relating to the Fire Company Grant Program and Emergency Medical Services Grant Program, respectively. Eligible companies that did not apply for or receive a fire and EMS grant in fiscal year 2019-20 would be required to submit an application for this funding.

The legislation provides for the appropriation of \$31 million from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) for the grants. Of the money appropriated, \$26.4 million shall be made eligible for grants to fire companies, and \$4.6 million shall be made eligible for grants to EMS companies. PEMA may use up to \$200,000 in unencumbered funds for administration of the program.

The grant program shall expire six months after the effective date of this legislation, and the act shall take effect immediately.

Senate Bill 1122 also includes the following appropriations from funds provided by the CARES Act:

- \$449 million for Medical Assistance - Long-Term Care;
- \$8 million for Medical Assistance - Long-Term Care – Managed Care; and
- \$50 million for Community HealthChoices.

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## FISCAL NOTE

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Senate Bill 1122 directs the use of \$538 million distributed to the Commonwealth via the federal CARES Act. These funds are required by the federal government to be used for expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic and for purposes that were not previously appropriated by the Commonwealth.

The bill requires PEMA to award the fire and EMS grant funds in the same amounts as awarded in fiscal year 2019-20 under sections 7813 and 7823 of Title 35. For calendar year 2019-20 the total amount awarded was \$31 million, of which fire companies received \$26.4 million and EMS companies received \$4.6 million.

Senate Bill 1122 also makes appropriations of \$507 million from funds provided by the CARES Act as follows:

- \$449 million – Medical Assistance – Long-Term Care;
- \$8 million – Medical Assistance – Long-Term Care – Managed Care; and
- \$50 million – Community HealthChoices