

# **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** House Bill 1598

**PRINTER NO.** 2140

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact

**FUND**

General Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

June 10, 2021

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Boback

**DESCRIPTION**

House Bill 1598 amends the Flood Plain Management Act to transfer the administration of the program and remove antiquated appropriation language.

This bill moves the administration of the Flood Plain Management Act from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA). The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) maintains its consultation role to review and approve all municipal flood plain management regulations in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program.

House Bill 1598 also removes a one-time appropriation from FY 1978-79.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

House Bill 1598 will have no fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds, and current staffing levels are sufficient to accommodate the transfer of responsibility.

PEMA believes that transferring this responsibility will result in improved program coordination and management and could also assist with receiving the approval of the Commonwealth's enhanced mitigation plan by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In the past, FEMA has withheld its approval due to the program's fragmented administration. This approval would result in an increase of the Commonwealth's reimbursement rate from 15% to 20% for the hazard mitigation program.