Legislative Analysis



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT: SHORTEN EMERGENCY DECLARATION EFFECTIVENESS

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

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Senate Bill 858 as passed by the Senate

Sponsor: Sen. Tom Barrett

House Committee: Government Operations

Senate Committee: Government Operations [Discharged]

Complete to 4-28-20

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 858 would amend the Emergency Management Act to reduce, from 28 days to 14 days, the length of time a declaration of a state of emergency or disaster can be in effect before it must be terminated by the governor or extended by the legislature.

The Emergency Management Act authorizes the governor to proclaim a state of emergency or state of disaster in the event of an emergency or disaster or the threat of one. A declaration of a state of emergency or disaster under the act is in effect until the emergency or disaster no longer exists or the declaration has been in effect for 28 days. After 28 days, the governor must declare the state of emergency or disaster terminated unless an extension for a specific number of days is approved by resolution of both houses of the legislature.

The bill would reduce, from 28 days to 14 days, the length of time a declaration of a state of emergency or state of disaster can be in effect before it must be either terminated by the governor or extended by the legislature.

MCL 30.403

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have an unknown fiscal impact on state and local governments. Any fiscal impact would be specific to the characteristics of any future state of disaster or emergency and the authorizing statute used for the declaration. The governor would retain similar emergency powers under 1945 PA 302, the Emergency Powers of the Governor Act, which includes no explicit expiration.

Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille Fiscal Analyst: Ben Gielczyk

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[■] This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.