

FISCAL NOTE

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

Updated for amendments adopted through March 31, 2014.

ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	FY 2014-15		FY 2015-16	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	See Below			
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.

This bill, as amended, strikes the original provisions and incorporates three bills into LB 961:

- LB820 - Authorize the Governor to join the Great Plains Interstate Fire Compact for the prevention and control of forest fires.
- LB895 – Change compensation rate for certain volunteers under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act.
- LB951 - Change lump-sum settlement provisions under the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act

LB's 895 and 951 have no fiscal impact.

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the University of Nebraska do show a fiscal impact. LB961, as amended, states that the Governor “may” enter into a compact. It is also unclear whether NEMA or the State Forester will administer this compact. Therefore, any fiscal impact to NEMA or the University appears premature at this time.

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

2014

LB⁽¹⁾ 961

**FISCAL
NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Al Berndt, Asst. Dir. Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ 31 March 2014 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-471-7410

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	FY 2014-15		FY 2015-16	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	\$3,500.00		\$3,500.00	
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$3,500.00		\$3,500.00	
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS	\$7,000.00		\$7,000.00	

Explanation of Estimate: The writing and implementation of any wildfire compact involving NEMA would be integrated into the administration, planning and exercising program of the agency in support of the current State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) and the current Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement with the Federal Government. The costs noted would be to cover travel costs for NEMA and state personnel to attend compact meetings at the regional and national level and any additional associated administrative costs to implement and maintain the compact. From a technical standpoint, the Workman's Compensation language contained in Article IX, Section 2 appears to be in contradiction with language contained in state statute 81-829.53 through 81-829.56 in regards to making first responders members of state emergency response teams for response outside the state for Workman's Compensation purposes. This also appears to set up at the minimum additional administrative costs and processes for this requirement and the agency has no ability to determine potential costs impacts at this time.

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2014-15	2015-16
	14-15	15-16	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
N/A-utilize current staff	0	0	0	0
Benefits.....				
Operating.....			\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Travel.....			\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
TOTAL.....			\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

2014

LB ⁽¹⁾ 961 AM 2626 FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: ⁽²⁾ University of Nebraska

Prepared by: ⁽³⁾ Mike Justus Date Prepared: ⁽⁴⁾ March 31, 2014 Phone: ⁽⁵⁾ 402-472-2191

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	FY 2013-2014		FY 2014-2015	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	\$ <u>181,000</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>141,000</u>	\$ _____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	\$ <u>181,000</u>	\$ _____	\$ <u>141,000</u>	\$ _____

Return by date specified or 72 hours prior to public hearing, whichever is earlier.

Explanation of Estimate:

LB 961 AM 2626 creates the ability to form a compact with other state agencies and places the Nebraska State Forester in the role of wildfire suppression compact administrator on behalf of the state of Nebraska. The State Forester does not currently have the capacity to absorb these duties or a funding mechanism in place to pay other states providing assistance. The addition of 2.0 FTE specialized staff with responsibilities specific to this area would be necessary for carrying out the various duties.

The additional staff needed in the NFS does not currently have a funding mechanism in place.

MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2013-2014	2014-2015
	13-14	14-15	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
Fire Operations Manager/Compact Administrator	<u>1.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>	\$ <u>50,000</u>	\$ <u>50,000</u>
Fire Accountant	<u>1.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
Benefits.....			<u>27,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>
Operating.....			<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Travel.....			<u>20,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Capital outlay			<u>40,000</u>	_____
Aid			_____	_____
Capital improvements			_____	_____
TOTAL			\$ <u>181,000</u>	\$ <u>141,000</u>