

Appropriations Committee

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

May 5, 2003

The Honorable Peter J. Zug
150A East Wing
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Fiscal Note
HB 1018 PN 1193
Amendment #0324

Dear Representative Zug:

Amendment A0324 to House Bill 1018, Printers No. 1193 creates an Emergency Services Fund and establishes a \$.25 monthly surcharge on both land line and wireless phones to provide monies for this fund.

Under the amendment, the proceeds from these surcharges would go directly into the Emergency Services Fund. Moneys in the fund and any interest the fund accrues are to be appropriated annually to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to be used for grants to volunteer fire and rescue companies and ambulance services.

Currently, there are approximately 8.5 million land lines and 5 million wireless phones in use in Pennsylvania. Therefore, this amendment would generate approximately \$40 million in new funds. Any administrative costs associated with any grants resulting from this legislation should be minimal. Accordingly, this amendment would have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds.

In order to comply with the rules of the House, you should provide a copy of this fiscal note to the Amendment Clerk for distribution to the members prior to offering your amendment. This committee is not responsible for circulating the note as the decision to offer the amendment or not lies with you as sponsor.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Argall".

David G. Argall

DGA/sb