

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 863

Relating to cost recovery for fire protection

To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Public Safety Subcommittee

Carrier: Senator Campos

SB 863 establishes a process and authorizes the Department of the State Fire Marshal to recover fire suppression costs from a person who is willful, malicious, or negligent in the origin or subsequent spread of a fire. Additionally, the measure defines the actual cost to be the cost incurred or payments made by the Department to control or extinguish a fire and provides legal authorities for investigation and collection of amounts owed.

Anticipated costs to implement the measure are minimal and included in the Department's budget.

The disposition of the potential revenue is not included in the measure, which affords the Department the flexibility to deposit the revenue in the same fund where the original fire expenses were recorded, thereby matching revenue to expense in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends SB 863 be reported out do pass.