

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6654

As of February 1, 2002

Title: An act relating to homeland security.

Brief Description: Providing funds for emergency management.

Sponsors: Senators Kastama and Rasmussen.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: State & Local Government: 2/4/02.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Staff: Mac Nicholson (786-7445)

Background: Some feel that portions of Washington State may face significant threats from terrorism based upon their political, symbolic, or economic significance.

Summary of Bill: Two million dollars is appropriated each fiscal biennium for the Military Department to be provided as homeland security grants to political subdivisions of the state. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003, \$2 million, or as much as is necessary, is appropriated for the grants. Grants are awarded to up to ten jurisdictions annually, on a prioritized basis, that have established emergency management programs. The priorities are based on existing threat and vulnerability assessments approved by the Military Department. The grants may be used for funding full-time counterterrorism coordinators, terrorism consequence planning, training, exercises, and other resources. The grants are not used to supplant or replace existing state or local emergency management funding.

Appropriation: \$2 million.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.