



# GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY FUND

EXECUTIVE OFFICES & CRIMINAL JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
STAFF: ZACKERY KING

BUDGET BRIEF

## **SUMMARY**

The Legislature appropriates funds to the Governor's Emergency Fund line item so that the Governor may address a crisis or disaster without calling a special session. The fund's budget is maintained at \$100,000 by annual appropriations during the general session. This has been the practice of the legislature for many years. It allows the fund to be ready quickly in case of an emergency.

The Legislature has supplied nonlapsing authority through intent language each general session to allow any unexpended funds to carry forward between fiscal years. Emergency Fund balances are recorded as beginning and closing balances. This detail gives the appearance that the FY 2014 requested budget is a \$0 balance when the fund balances are rolled up. However, the \$75,100 total for FY 2014 was the amount the fund closed with in FY 2012 and was built into the FY 2014 budget request; a building block request to replenish the fund to \$100,000 has been submitted by the Governor's Office.

Additional detail can be found at the following link: [http://le.utah.gov/lfa/reports/cobi2013/LI\\_CGA.htm](http://le.utah.gov/lfa/reports/cobi2013/LI_CGA.htm)

## **ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### ***Base Budget***

For the Emergency Fund Line Item the Fiscal Analyst recommends a FY 2014 budget of \$75,100.

### ***Replace Emergency Fund***

In the event that funds are available, the Fiscal Analyst recommends that the subcommittee forward to the Executive Appropriations Committee for further consideration, a one-time increase of \$44,200 from the General Fund for replacement of funds expended in FY 2012 and FY 2013 from the Governor's Emergency Fund.

### ***Intent Language***

A report on intent language passed by the Legislature during the 2012 General Session for the Governor is included in the issue brief entitled *Governor's Office Follow-up on Previous Intent Language*.

The Analyst recommends the following intent language to make the Emergency Fund's FY 2011 unexpended appropriations nonlapsing at the end of FY 2011:

*Under section 63J-1-603 of the Utah Code, the Legislature intends that appropriations provided for the Governor's Office-Emergency Fund in Item 4 Chapter 11 Laws of Utah 2012 not lapse at the close of Fiscal Year 2013.*

### ***Governor's Recommendations***

#### **FY 2013**

1. *Emergency Fund Restoration* - \$44,200 General Fund. The balance of this fund is maintained at \$100,000 and the Governor puts in an annual recommendation to replenish the fund to that amount each general session.

**BUDGET DETAIL TABLE**

| Governor's Office - Emergency Fund |                   |                         |            |                    |            |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| Sources of Finance                 | FY 2012<br>Actual | FY 2013<br>Appropriated | Changes    | FY 2013<br>Revised | Changes    | FY 2014*<br>Recommended |
| Beginning Nonlapsing               | 100,000           | 98,500                  | (23,400)   | 75,100             | 0          | 75,100                  |
| Closing Nonlapsing                 | (75,100)          | (98,500)                | 23,400     | (75,100)           | 0          | (75,100)                |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$24,900</b>   | <b>\$0</b>              | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>         | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>              |
| <b>Programs</b>                    |                   |                         |            |                    |            |                         |
| Governor's Emergency Fund          | 24,900            | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                       |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$24,900</b>   | <b>\$0</b>              | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>         | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>              |
| <b>Categories of Expenditure</b>   |                   |                         |            |                    |            |                         |
| Other Charges/Pass Thru            | 24,900            | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                       |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$24,900</b>   | <b>\$0</b>              | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>         | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b>              |

\*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.

**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Analyst recommends the Legislature:

1. Approve a FY2014 base budget of \$75,100 as shown in the budget detail table under closing nonlapsing balances.
2. Should funds become available, forward to the Executive Appropriations Committee for further consideration, a one-time supplemental increase of \$44,200 from the General Fund for replacement of funds expended in FY 2012 and FY 2013 from the Governor's Emergency Fund.
3. After review and adjustment, approve the intent language shown on page 1.