CHAPTER 1

SENATE BILL 1146

AN ACT

AMENDING LAWS 2021, FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, CHAPTER 1, SECTION 1; RELATING TO FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Laws 2021, first special session, chapter 1, section 1, is amended to read:

Section 1. **Supplemental appropriation; Arizona department of forestry and fire management; wildfire emergency response; reports; exemption**

A. In addition to any other appropriations made in fiscal year 2020-2021, the sum of $75,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2020-2021 to the Arizona department of forestry and fire management for wildfire emergency response. The department may spend the monies for:

1. Fire suppression and pre-positioning of fire suppression equipment and staff.
2. Capital expenditures and equipment associated with fire suppression and pre-positioning activities for fire suppression.
3. Mitigation projects to address postfire flooding and other damage that may occur as a result of fires or fire suppression activities.
4. A state or local government agency's emergency liabilities related to emergency sheltering, wraparound services and support activities.
5. Financial assistance to public and private landowners for emergency repairs for infrastructure damage resulting from fires or fire suppression activities.
6. Reimbursement to a state agency or political subdivision for the state agency's or political subdivision's costshare of eligible claims arising from an emergency declared pursuant to section 35-192, Arizona Revised Statutes, or a federal declaration of emergency or major disaster.

B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section shall be used to supplement and not supplant any monies allocated by the federal government for this purpose. The department shall seek federal reimbursement as appropriate for expenditures made from this appropriation. Any reimbursements shall be credited to this appropriation.

C. The department may not spend more than a total of $10,000,000 of the appropriation made in subsection A of this section for state capital purposes pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 2 of this section.

D. The department may not spend more than a total of $10,000,000 of the appropriation made in subsection A of this section for financial assistance to private landowners pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 5 of this section. The department shall distribute monies to landowners pursuant to subsection A, paragraph 5 of this section only as the payor of last resort after all other sources of payment, including any insurance and other reimbursements, have been exhausted. Deducted or the landowner provides information to the department that the landowner does not qualify.
FOR OTHER REIMBURSEMENT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRIORITIZE DISTRIBUTIONS OF
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PRIVATE LANDOWNERS.

E. Not later than fifteen days after the end of each month, the
department shall report to the president of the senate, the speaker of the
house of representatives and the joint legislative budget committee on
expenditures from and reimbursements to the appropriation made in
subsection A of this section for the prior month. Each report shall
include, at a minimum, information regarding the total expenditures and
reimbursements for each paragraph listed in subsection A of this section
and the amount of monies remaining in the appropriation.

F. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating
to lapsing of appropriations.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR FEBRUARY 11, 2022.