

Comment Report

SF 2188

A bill for an act concerning federal financial assistance funding for hazard mitigation. (Formerly SSB 3057.)

Subcommittee Members: Bossman-CH, Running-Marquardt, Worthan

Date: 06/03/2020

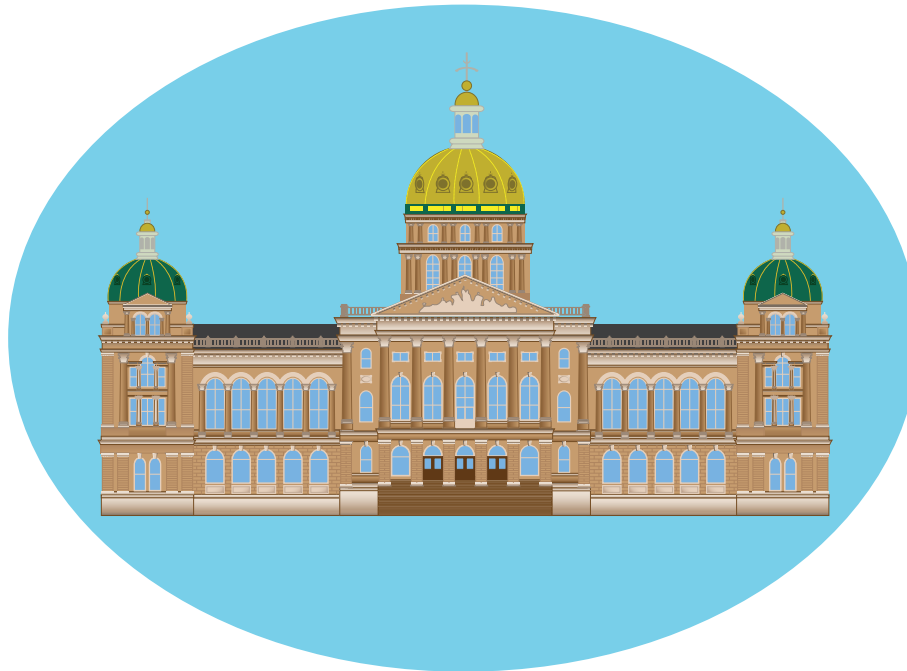
Time: 10:30 AM

Location: RM 103, Sup. Ct. Chamber

First Name	Last Name	Company	Phone	Email
Blake	DeRouchey	Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management	515-401-2061	blake.derouchey@iowa.gov

Comment Good day Representatives Bossman, RunningMarquardt, and Worthan, Thank you for considering our Department bill for PreDisaster Mitigation Match funding. Prior to the Legislature being suspended, the full House Appropriations Committee was set to vote on the identical HF2495, but substituted SF2188 as already passed by the Senate. This bill would allow us to better leverage available federal mitigation funds without first experiencing a disaster. SF2188 would allow the State to use funding from the Performance of Duty Fund to help fund local projects through a 10% state match (Local share 15%, Federal share 75%). This would then align with how we fund postdisaster mitigation funds available through a Presidential Disaster Declarations. Since March, we participated in a call with FEMA and were provided additional information. We learned there is expected to be \$80 billion nationally available in their Disaster Relief Fund, part of which includes the predisaster mitigation funding. Historically, this Federal Fund has not had nearly that much available. Without this bill, local jurisdictions would have to fully fund the 25% local share of a project. The full funding of the local share coupled with the small amount available for projects nationwide, led to low interest in applying. There are a great number of local jurisdictions, (including the local Iowa Emergency Management Association) that have expressed interest and support for predisaster mitigation funding should the state match be available, as this bill proposes. I'm writing today to ask for your continued support of the bill this session. Thank you please let me know if there is any additional questions or follow up.

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The bill mirrors existing 29C.6 language authorizing 10% State match for disaster mitigation assistance, as well as the source of the funding (Performance of Duty-Economic Emergency Fund).



HSEMD estimates \$3-5 million per year in State share match funds for the BRIC program.

The bill falls under the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program. FEMA has increased the amount of funding available, pre-disaster, for funding mitigation projects (mitigation funding without a Presidential Disaster Declaration or disaster impacting Iowa).

The bill authorizes the State to help fund local share. It proposes the State share 10% of the costs to go with 15% local cost share. The Federal portion is 75%.