

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5936

As of January 31, 2018

Title: An act relating to removing the prohibition on planning for a nuclear attack in emergency management plans.

Brief Description: Removing the prohibition on planning for a nuclear attack in emergency management plans.

Sponsors: Senators Frockt, Miloscia, Ranker and Palumbo.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections: 2/02/18.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Removes the prohibition on planning for a nuclear attack in state emergency management plans.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, TRIBAL RELATIONS & ELECTIONS

Staff: Melissa Van Gorkom (786-7491)

Background: The Washington Military Department, under the direction of the adjutant general, administers the state's comprehensive program of emergency management. Emergency management includes preparation for and carrying out all emergency functions to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters; to aid victims suffering from injury or damage resulting from disasters; and to provide support for search and rescue operations. Emergency management, as defined, excludes planning for emergency evacuation or relocation of residents in anticipation of a nuclear attack.

The adjutant general is responsible for developing a comprehensive, all-hazard emergency plan for the state that includes an analysis of natural, technological, or human-caused hazards, and procedures to coordinate local and state resources in responding to such hazards. With respect to federally owned areas, the adjutant general may agree with the federal government or other agencies upon a plan of emergency management that may or may not conform to all state law requirements, with a view to integrating federally owned

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areas into the state comprehensive emergency management plan. Each political subdivision of the state is directed to establish a local organization or to be a member of a joint local organization for emergency management in accordance with the state comprehensive emergency management plan and program. No emergency management plan may include preparation for emergency evacuation or relocation of residents in anticipation of a nuclear attack.

Summary of Bill: Provisions are removed that exclude nuclear attack planning from the definition of emergency management, and that prohibit the state comprehensive emergency management plan and agreed federal area plans from including preparation for emergency evacuation or relocation of residents in anticipation of a nuclear attack.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.