

Total	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	NA	NA
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(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

This Bill would make changes to four code sections that address the Governor's emergency powers (All Hazard, Public Health Emergency, Riot Control and Energy Emergency) that would specify exemption to match the most lenient of other exemptions to be also allowed for religious entities as identified under the federal tax code. This would also allow legal action against the state for breach and also allow punitive damages in some circumstances.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This Bill responds to actions taken by the Executive during the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency. The Bill would constrain the Executive from tailored rulemaking during an emergency. Depending on the nature of an emergency (e.g. highly contagious pathogen) an exception for religious gatherings may undermine public safety. that a more precise, tailored response would give. This Bill may limit options in the difficult task of applying the least restrictive and most effective policies during an emergency. Additionally, opening this area up to litigation may result in high legal expenses incurred by the state.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

This Bill could allow large gatherings with increased hazard of aerosol infection should Covid 19 surge or another pandemic propagate.

ALTERNATIVES

None

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo.

AMENDMENTS

None