

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1863

Introduced by Assembly Member Chesbro

February 22, 2012

An act relating to mutual aid, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1863, as introduced, Chesbro. Mutual aid: reimbursement.

The California Emergency Services Act provides for the rendering of mutual aid by the state government and by the political subdivisions of this state to mitigate the effects of natural, manmade, or war-caused emergencies. The act requires aid to be rendered in accordance with approved emergency plans during any state of war emergency or state of emergency when the need arises for outside aid in any county, city and county, or city. The act authorizes state agencies and political subdivisions to exercise mutual aid powers in accordance with the Master Mutual Aid Agreement and local ordinances, resolutions, agreements, or plans in periods other than a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency.

This bill would make certain findings and declarations regarding a 36-day manhunt that occurred in Mendocino County in 2011. This bill would appropriate \$40,827.29 from the General Fund to Mendocino County to reimburse the county for the costs it incurred during the manhunt. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would establish reimbursement procedures for statewide law enforcement mutual aid.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:
3 (a) A 36-day manhunt occurred in Mendocino County from late
4 August 2011 to October 1, 2011, for a suspect in the murders of
5 community member Matthew Coleman and Fort Bragg City
6 Council Member Jere Melo.
7 (b) Law enforcement agencies throughout California, assisted
8 by fellow emergency responders, engaged in an unprecedented
9 manhunt. The search for the suspect centered four miles east of
10 Fort Bragg in remote and rugged terrain. The multiagency search
11 operation, the parameters of which were focused along the
12 Highway 20 corridor, between Willits and Fort Bragg into the
13 Noyo Basin, depleted the scarce financial resources of the
14 Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office.
15 (c) The Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office incurred special
16 expenses for outside agencies that came at Mendocino County’s
17 request for mutual aid, including lodging, food, and logistical
18 expenditures in the amount of \$40,827.29.
19 SEC. 2. The sum of forty thousand eight hundred twenty-seven
20 dollars and twenty-nine cents (\$40,827.29) is hereby appropriated
21 from the General Fund to Mendocino County to reimburse the
22 county for the costs it incurred for the food and lodging of outside
23 agencies that offered mutual aid to the county in the 2011 manhunt
24 for the suspected killer of Matthew Coleman and Fort Bragg City
25 Council Member Jere Melo.
26 SEC. 3. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation
27 that would establish reimbursement procedures for statewide law
28 enforcement mutual aid.

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