

conduct a security assessment of a building owned by private entity upon the request of that private entity.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill modifies the powers and duties of the Chief of Domestic Security Initiatives within the Department of Law Enforcement. It requires the chief to conduct, or cause to be conducted, security assessments of buildings and facilities that are owned or leased by state agencies, state universities, and community colleges. Such agency, university, or community college must cooperate with the department and provide the assistance of employees to provide information to the chief in a designated format.

In the event that an agency, university, or college substantially fails to cooperate with the chief in making a security assessment of a building or facility, the chief must report such to the Governor and Legislature.

The first assessment of every agency must be provided to the chief no later than December 1, 2004, and the chief may request followup assessments to ensure that the assessments remain current.

Section 943.0311(3), F.S., requires the Chief of Domestic Security Initiatives to make an annual report of prioritized suggestions for specific security enhancements to the Governor and the Legislature. The chief must also report recommended best practices for the safety and security of state agencies, universities, colleges, and local governments, and these practices may be revised by the chief as necessary.

The chief must encourage local governments to conduct security assessments of their buildings and advise those governments of options to consider in obtaining assessments. Local governments must bear the costs for assessing buildings and facilities owned or leased by local governments.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Other Constitutional Issues:

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill provides for security assessments of state agencies, universities and community colleges to be conducted by the personnel and with the resources of such agencies, universities and community colleges.

The Department of Management Services (DMS) reported that state facilities inventory includes 3,757 buildings and 54,808,706 square feet of building space, not including the state university system.²

Under the provisions of this bill, if a local government elects to perform security assessments of buildings, the costs will be the responsibility of the local government. The Department of Law Enforcement will provide an assessment guide and template so that the work may be done by a local government employee as part of a normal job assignment, or may be used by a private entity which contracts with local government. The assessment guide and template will be available to government agencies through the regional domestic security task forces' secure website on November 1, 2003. The assessment guide and template will be made available to private entities through their respective regional domestic security task forces.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

On October 22, 2003, the Committee on Home Defense, Public Security, and Ports adopted an amendment that requires state agencies, universities, and community colleges to provide initial security assessments to the Chief of Domestic Security Initiatives no later than November 1, 2004. This change conforms the due date for security assessments to the date that the annual domestic security report is due to the Governor and the Legislature.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

² House Bill Analysis for HB 1829, 2003 Session, April 10, 2003.