

Insurance Commissioner, including Insurance Tax Payments to Fire Departments
Budget No. 401
House Bill No. 1010

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2017-19 legislative appropriation	46.00	\$0	\$25,793,430	\$25,793,430
2015-17 legislative appropriation	<u>49.50</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,246,346</u>	<u>28,246,346</u>
2017-19 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2015-17 appropriation	(3.50)	\$0	(\$2,452,916)	(\$2,452,916)

Item Description

Insurance tax payments to fire departments - In Section 4 of 2017 House Bill No. 1010, the Legislative Assembly appropriated \$15,064,086 from the insurance tax distribution fund for payments to North Dakota fire departments in the amount of \$14,235,561 and payments to the North Dakota Firefighter's Association in the amount of \$828,525.

Firefighting training stipends - In Section 7 of 2015 Senate Bill No. 2016, the Legislative Assembly identified up to \$500,000 of the \$15,681,207 available for payments to North Dakota fire departments was to be made available to the Department of Emergency Services for providing stipends to firefighters participating in approved training. In Section 9 of 2017 House Bill No. 1010, the Legislative Assembly provided that any of the \$500,000 not used for stipends be returned to the general fund.

FTE changes - The 2017-19 biennium appropriation includes funding for 46 FTE positions, a decrease of 3.5 FTE positions from the 2015-17 biennium authorized level of 49.5 FTE positions. The Legislative Assembly removed 1 senior examiner, 1 licensing specialist, 0.5 office assistant, and 1 nonclassified position.

Status/Result

The Insurance Department made the first payment of \$414,262 to the North Dakota Firefighter's Association in September 2017. The department made the first payment of \$7,117,781 to North Dakota fire departments in November 2017.

The Insurance Department transferred \$484,308 of unused firefighter training stipend funding from the insurance tax distribution fund to the general fund in August 2017.

The Insurance Department has removed the 3.5 FTE positions removed by the Legislative Assembly.