

**JBC STAFF FISCAL ANALYSIS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

CONCERNING STATE-FUNDED PROGRAMS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS THROUGH MULTIPLE EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFIT TRUSTS.

Prime Sponsors: Reps. McCluskie and Lynch
Sens. Pelton B. and Mullica

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Appropriation Items of Note

Appropriation Required, Amendments in Packet

General Fund Impact

Fiscal Impact of Bill as Amended to Date

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 03/08/24.

XXX	No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>new information or technical issues</i>
	Update: Fiscal impact has changed due to <i>amendment adopted</i> after LCS Fiscal Note was prepared
	Non-Concurrence: JBC Staff and Legislative Council Staff disagree about the fiscal impact of the bill

The Finance Committee Report (03/11/24) includes amendments to the bill, however, Legislative Council Staff and JBC Staff agree that the committee amendments do not change the fiscal impact of the bill.

Amendments in This Packet for Consideration by Appropriations Committee

Amendment	Description
J.001	Staff-prepared appropriation amendment
L.003/J.002	Bill Sponsor amendment - changes fiscal impact <i>and</i> appropriation

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill requires but does not contain an appropriation clause.

Description of Amendments in This Packet

J.001 Staff has prepared amendment **J.001** (attached) to add a provision appropriating \$3,300,000 General Fund to the Department of Public Safety for FY 2024-25.

L.003 and J.002*FY 2024-25 Fiscal Impact*

Bill Sponsor amendment **L.003** (attached) adds a statutory requirement to appropriate a total of \$500,000 General Fund for FY 2024-25. This includes \$300,000 General Fund to the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and \$200,000 General Fund to the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

Staff has prepared amendment **J.002** (attached) to appropriate a total of \$500,000 General Fund in FY 2024-25. Of this amount, \$300,000 is appropriated to the Department of Local Affairs and \$200,000 is appropriated to the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Public Safety.

Future Fiscal Impact of L.003

The amendment also requires total General Fund obligations of \$1.25 million in FY 2025-26, \$2.0 million in FY 2026-27, \$2.75 million in FY 2027-28, and \$3.5 million in FY 2028-29.

Of these amounts, DOLA would receive appropriations of \$850,000 in FY 2025-26, \$1.4 million in FY 2026-27, and \$2.0 million in FY 2027-28. A \$2.5 million General Fund transfer to the Firefighter Benefits Cash Fund would occur in FY 2028-29. Transfers in FY 2029-30 and beyond would be in amounts sufficient to reimburse employers, though subject to annual appropriation by the General Assembly.

DPS would receive appropriations of \$400,000 in FY 2025-26, \$600,000 in FY 2026-27, \$750,000 in FY 2027-28, and \$1.0 million in FY 2028-29. Appropriations in FY 2029-30 and beyond would be in amounts sufficient for the purpose of that section, though subject to annual appropriation by the General Assembly.

If the Committee adopts L.003, it should also adopt J.002.

Points to Consider*General Fund Impact*

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2024-25 based on the March 2024 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$63.1 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 15.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders (a total of \$9.5 million).

HB24-1219**JBC Staff Analysis**

General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2024 Legislation	
Description	FY 2024-25
General Legislative Priorities	\$21,739,130
Legislation for Shared Housing Priorities	12,043,478
Legislation for Shared Workforce and Education Priorities	16,152,110
Legislation for Other Shared Priorities	10,519,130
Legislation for Distributions to Rural Hospitals	2,608,689
TOTAL Placeholders for Other 2024 Legislation	\$63,062,537

This bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$3.3 million for FY 2024-25, reducing the \$63.1 million set aside by the same amount. If the Committee adopts amendment **L.003**, the bill requires an appropriation of \$500,000 General Fund in FY 2024-25, reducing the set aside by the same amount.