



Initiative 157

Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Fiscal Impact Statement

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LCS TITLE: FUNDING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Fiscal Impact Summary		FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures¹	Cash Funds	\$35 million	\$35 million
	Total Expenditures	\$35 million	\$35 million
	Total FTE	17.0 FTE	17.0 FTE
Transfers	General Fund	(\$350 million)	-
	Cash Funds	\$350 million	-
	Net Transfer	\$0	-

¹ This fiscal impact statement assumes transferred funds will be spent evenly over a 10-year period. The timing of actual expenditures from the cash fund may vary and will be determined by the General Assembly. It is estimated that the death benefit will cost at least \$3.0 million per year, on average.

***Disclaimer.** This initial fiscal impact statement has been prepared for an initiative approved for petition circulation by the Secretary of State. If the initiative is placed on the ballot, Legislative Council Staff may revise this estimate for the ballot information booklet (Blue Book) if new information becomes available.*

Summary of Measure

The measure creates the Peace Officer Training and Support Fund in the Department of Public Safety (CDPS) and appropriates \$350 million to the fund. Additionally, the measure creates a \$1 million death benefit for the surviving spouse, children, or estate of any peace officer killed in the line of duty. The death benefit is paid from the fund. The fund will also be used to award grants to support local law enforcement agencies.

State Transfers

The measure requires the General Assembly to appropriate \$350 million from the General Fund to the Peace Officer Training and Support Fund, which effectively transfers this money to the fund for later use on grants and death benefits. It is assumed the General Assembly will make a one-time appropriation from the General Fund to the cash fund in FY 2024-25.

State Expenditures

Assuming spending from the cash fund will occur evenly over a 10-year period, the measure increases state expenditures by about \$35 million per year starting in FY 2024-25. However, the exact amount of spending from the fund and its specific uses must be determined by the General Assembly. Based on the assumed level of annual spending, it is estimated that the CDPS will spend the following from the fund each year:

- \$30 million on grants and other support to local law enforcement agencies;
- \$3 million, on average, for death benefits; and
- \$1.9 million and 17 FTE on administration in the CDPS, including staff to process grant applications, issue grant awards, oversee contracts, collect and report data, process death benefits for eligible officers, and other related tasks.

The estimates above are based on the assumption that money in the fund will be used for grants, of which up to 1,000 could be issued annually, and that on average three officers who are killed in the line of duty will qualify for a death benefit. Administrative costs may vary from this estimate if the General Assembly uses a different model to disperse funds other than a grant program model, such as direct or formulaic distributions to local governments. Money in the fund must be used to supplement, not supplant, existing funding for local law enforcement.

Local Government

The measure will increase state funding to local governments, which will correspondingly increase spending by local law enforcement agencies. State funding must add to and not replace existing funding for local agencies. Local governments may incur minimal costs to apply for grants, assuming the state requires that local governments apply for grants from the fund. Participating local governments may also have additional workload to report on how money is spent and other related tasks.

Effective Date

If approved by voters at the 2024 general election, this measure takes effect upon proclamation of the Governor, no later than 30 days after the official canvass of the vote is completed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties
Municipalities
Public Safety

Judicial
Police Chiefs

Law
Sheriffs

Revisions from Fiscal Summary

This fiscal impact statement adds additional detail on the administrative costs for the CDPS to disperse funding as grants under the measure.