

CHAPTER 323

APPROPRIATIONS

SENATE BILL 96-195

BY SENATORS Norton, Wells, Feeley, Dennis, Johnson, and Rupert;
also REPRESENTATIVES Berry, Kerns, Acquafresca, Anderson, and Martin.

AN ACT

CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Appropriation. In addition to any other appropriation, there is hereby appropriated, to the legislative department of the state of Colorado, the sum of nineteen million nine hundred seventy-nine thousand five hundred five dollars (\$19,979,505), or so much thereof as may be necessary, of which amount nineteen million eight hundred seventy-nine thousand five hundred five dollars (\$19,879,505) shall be out of any moneys in the general fund not otherwise appropriated and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) shall be from cash funds, for payment of the expenses of the legislative department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1996, to be allocated as follows:

House of representatives and senate	\$7,799,029 ^{1/2/}
State auditor	5,155,088
Joint budget committee	756,727
Legislative council	3,115,273
Committee on legal services	<u>3,153,388^{3/}</u>
Total legislative department	\$19,979,505

^{1/} Of this amount, \$100,000 is appropriated out of cash funds generated by the joint bill room, and \$7,699,029 is appropriated out of the general fund.

^{2/} With assistance from the chief clerk of the house of representatives and the

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

secretary of the senate and the staffs of the legislative council and the office of legislative legal services, the executive committee of the legislative council shall study the provision of staff services to individual members of the general assembly during regular legislative sessions. Such study shall include an analysis of: a) The staff services currently available to individual members during the legislative session and how such services are used by such members; b) other options for the provision of staff services to individual members including, but not limited to, hiring session-only staff assistants for members or providing each member with a specific dollar amount to be used for staff services; c) issues relating to cost, training, management, and space and equipment needs in connection with the hiring of session-only staff assistants; d) issues relating to the lawful use of session-only staff assistants; e) the time frame for implementation of other options for the provision of staff services to individual members; and f) the amount of money required to fund other options for the provision of staff services and both short- and long-term sources for that funding including the use of moneys in the house of representatives and senate budgets for the 1996-97 fiscal year. The study shall be completed no later than August 31, 1996. Based upon such study, the executive committee shall adopt a plan for the provision of staff services to members of the general assembly, a time frame for implementation of the plan, and sources for funding the plan including funding for the 1997 regular session. If no special session is held during the 1996 interim, it is the intent of the general assembly that moneys budgeted for the 1996-97 fiscal year to pay the costs of a special session be expended to fund the plan for the provision of staff services for the 1997 regular session; except that the amount expended shall not exceed \$100,000. The executive committee shall present a written report of the study to the legislative council no later than October 15, 1996. Copies of such written report shall be made available to members of the general assembly including members elected in November 1996.

^{3/} It is anticipated that during the 1996-97 fiscal year the tax levy on civil actions provided for in section 2-5-119, Colorado Revised Statutes, will return approximately \$200,000 to the general fund to offset expenses of the revision of statutes by the office of legislative legal services.

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: May 2, 1996