
HOUSE BILL 1599

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives McMorris, Doumit, Clements, Constantine, Sheahan, Grant, G. Chandler, Linville, Rockefeller, D. Schmidt, Kessler and Schoesler

Read first time 01/29/1999. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to court funding; and adding new sections to
2 chapter 43.330 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The extraordinary criminal justice assistance account is created in
7 the state treasury. Appropriations may be made from the general fund
8 or the public safety and education account into this account. Moneys
9 in the account may be spent only after appropriation and as authorized
10 by the legislature. Expenditures from the account may be used only to
11 reimburse the extraordinary costs associated with the prosecution,
12 indigent defense, jury impanelment, expert witnesses, interpreters,
13 incarceration, and other adjudication costs of aggravated murder cases.
14 Only the director of community, trade, and economic development or the
15 director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330 RCW
17 to read as follows:

1 Eligible counties may submit claims to the department of community,
2 trade, and economic development for reimbursement from the
3 extraordinary criminal justice assistance account. Counties are
4 eligible to submit claims if their total costs for investigating and
5 adjudicating an aggravated murder case or cases are equal to twelve
6 percent of the most recent county law and justice budget adopted by the
7 county's legislative authority. For purposes of this section, a
8 county's law and justice budget is equal to the combined total of the
9 county's yearly appropriations for the sheriff's office, prosecutor's
10 office, indigent defense providers, jail, and superior court.

11 (1) The department of community, trade, and economic development
12 shall develop procedures for processing the claims, for auditing the
13 veracity of the claims, and for prioritizing the claims.
14 Prioritization of the claims shall be based on, but not limited to,
15 such factors as disproportionate fiscal impact relative to the county
16 budget, efficient use of resources, and whether the costs are
17 extraordinary and could not be reasonably accommodated and anticipated
18 in the normal budget process.

19 (2) Before January 1st of each year, the department shall develop
20 and submit to the appropriate fiscal committees of the senate and house
21 of representatives a prioritized list of submitted claims that are
22 recommended for funding by the legislature from the extraordinary
23 criminal justice assistance account. The list shall include a summary
24 of each claim and the nature of the costs incurred.

25 (3) The department shall not financially obligate funds from the
26 extraordinary criminal justice assistance account before the
27 legislature has appropriated funds for a specific list of claims. The
28 legislature may remove projects from the list recommended by the
29 department. The legislature shall not change the order of the
30 priorities recommended for funding by the department.

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