
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2015

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Entenman, Reeves, Berg, Morgan, Santos, Pollet, Donaghy, Doglio, Salahuddin, Chase, Obras, Parshley, Walen, Stearns, and Thai)

READ FIRST TIME 02/28/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to improving public safety funding by providing
2 resources to local governments and state and local criminal justice
3 agencies, and authorizing a local option tax; adding new sections to
4 chapter 82.14 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.101 RCW; and
5 creating a new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 82.14
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) The supplemental criminal justice account is created in the
10 state treasury.

11 (2) At the beginning of each quarter, the state treasurer must
12 distribute the funds appropriated to the account to qualified cities
13 and counties based on the following per capita formula:

14 (a) The amount appropriated into the account in the biennial
15 budget for the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium divided by eight;

16 (b) The amount in (a) of this subsection divided by the total
17 population of all qualified cities and counties for the quarter
18 combined; and

19 (c) The per person amount calculated in (b) of this subsection by
20 the population of each qualified city or county.

1 (3) For the purposes of this section, "qualified city or county"
2 means a city or county that imposes the tax in section 3 of this act
3 and is approved for a grant in section 2 of this act. The criminal
4 justice training commission must transmit a list of cities and
5 counties approved for grants to the state treasurer at least four
6 weeks before the end of a quarter.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
10 specific purpose, the commission shall develop and implement a local
11 law enforcement grant program for the purpose of providing direct
12 support to local and tribal law enforcement agencies in hiring,
13 retaining, and training law enforcement officers to increase
14 community policing and public safety. Under this section, the
15 commission shall:

16 (a) Establish procedures and policies for submitting the grant
17 applications and publish them on the commission's website;

18 (b) Publish the criteria for evaluating and selecting grant
19 recipients described in subsection (2) of this section on the
20 commission's website;

21 (c) Create a grant application form that local and tribal law
22 enforcement agencies must use to apply for grant funding; and

23 (d) Require reports from grant recipients that must include, but
24 is not limited to, how the funding impacts retention rates and
25 improved vacancy rates, and the percent of officer compliance with
26 the commission's 40-hour crisis intervention team training and
27 trauma-informed training approved by the commission.

28 (2) The grants under the local law enforcement grant program must
29 be awarded to local and tribal law enforcement agencies based on
30 their submittals to the commission. To qualify for a grant pursuant
31 to this section, a law enforcement agency must have:

32 (a) Written and published policies consistent with RCW 43.17.425
33 and 10.93.160, and the office of the attorney general's keep
34 Washington working act guide, model policies, and training
35 recommendations for state and local law enforcement agencies;

36 (b) Written and published policies in compliance with all
37 commission and attorney general model policies for law enforcement
38 including, but not limited to, use of force, duty to intervene, and
39 canine;

1 (c) Written and published policies and practices related to laws
2 addressing firearm relinquishment pursuant to court orders and
3 domestic violence 911 response requirements;

4 (d) 80 percent officer compliance rate with the commission's 40-
5 hour crisis intervention team training;

6 (e) 100 percent officer compliance rate with trauma-informed
7 training approved by the commission;

8 (f) Disclosed the number of vacancies at the applying agency as
9 of the time of application; and

10 (g) Primary funding from a jurisdiction that has authorized the
11 imposition of the sales and use tax created in section 3 of this act
12 before the awarding of the grant.

13 (3) Grant funding awarded to local and tribal law enforcement
14 agencies may only be used for the purposes of:

15 (a) Recruiting new law enforcement officers from the community in
16 which the officer will be working;

17 (b) Providing retention bonuses to newly recruited local law
18 enforcement officers;

19 (c) Funding use of force, de-escalation, crisis intervention, and
20 trauma-informed trainings for newly hired officers to remain in
21 compliance with the commission's required trainings; and

22 (d) Funding broader law enforcement and public safety efforts
23 including, but not limited to, emergency management planning,
24 environmental hazard mitigations, security personnel, community
25 outreach and assistance programs, and mental health crisis response.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 82.14
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 (1) By December 31, 2027, the legislative authority of any city
29 or county may fix and impose a sales and use tax in accordance with
30 the terms of this chapter. The tax authorized in this section is in
31 addition to any other taxes authorized by law and must be collected
32 from those persons who are taxable by the state pursuant to chapters
33 82.08 and 82.12 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within
34 such county.

35 (2) The rate of tax equals 0.1 percent of the selling price, in
36 the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of
37 a use tax.

38 (3) Moneys received from the tax imposed under this section must
39 be expended for criminal justice purposes.

1 (4) For purposes of this section, "criminal justice purposes"
2 means activities that substantially assist the criminal justice
3 system, which may include circumstances where ancillary benefit to
4 the civil justice system occurs, and which includes domestic violence
5 services such as those provided by domestic violence programs,
6 community advocates, and legal advocates, as those terms are defined
7 in RCW 70.123.020.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of
9 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
10 provided by June 30, 2025, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
11 act is null and void.

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