

2751

Administration

Office of Justice Assistance

(LFB Budget Summary Document: Page 78)

LFB Summary Items for Which Issue Papers Have Been Prepared

<u>Item #</u>	<u>Title</u>
7	Grants Specialist Position (Paper #185)
8	Full Funding of Information Systems Position (Paper #186)

Gov Agency: DOA (Office of Justice Assistance) – Grants Specialist Position

Recommendations:

Paper No. 185 Alternative 2 ✓

Comments:

Provides a two-year project grants specialist position, rather than a permanent position as under the Governor's recommendation, to bring in more federal and other grant monies to Wisconsin both at the state and local levels. This position would be considered an investment in that it is anticipated that the result increase in grant funds will be much more than the cost of the position.

Wisconsin ranks 49th out of the 50 states in the per capita amount of federal funds received and ranks 32nd in federal grants.

This would be a "trial" position and OJA would be required to report to the Legislature the accomplishments of the grants specialist, including a list of grants received by state and local agencies attributable to the position's efforts.

Prepared by: Deb



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

May 6, 1999

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #185

Grants Specialist Position (DOA -- Office of Justice Assistance)

[LFB 1999-01 Budget Summary: Page 83, #7]

CURRENT LAW

No provision.

GOVERNOR

Provide \$36,300 GPR in 1999-00 and \$39,800 GPR in 2000-01 and 1.0 GPR position for a grants specialist position.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. The grants specialist position, as recommended by the Governor, would develop federal and private funding contract and resource directories, disseminate information on funding opportunities to state and local agencies, assist in writing applications for funding and other proposals which may secure federal or private foundation or corporate resources, and train local governmental and non-profit agencies in competing for grant funds.

2. The goal of the position is to bring in more federal and other grant monies to Wisconsin, both at the state and local levels. According to OJA, this position could be considered an investment, in that it is anticipated that the resulting increase in grant funds will be much more than the cost of the position.

3. According to recent Census Bureau statistics, Wisconsin is 49th out of the 50 states in the per capita amount of federal funds received. According to the report, Virginia ranks first, with \$8,221 per capita received from federal monies, while Wisconsin's per capita amount is \$4,189. The fact that Wisconsin lacks a large low-income population, defense bases, a large

retirement population and federal jobs accounts for much of this discrepancy. However, Wisconsin also ranks 32nd in federal grants.

4. Although located in OJA, the position would assess and facilitate funding opportunities in a wider range of funding and programming areas, as directed by the OJA executive director and the Governor's office. Since this position's efforts would not be limited to justice-related agencies, this could be seen as broadening the mission of OJA beyond its justice assistance function.

5. A number of state agencies currently work to secure federal or other grants for programs or services under their purview. It could be seen that OJA's expertise in justice-related grant writing may not be helpful to those agencies applying for other types of grants.

6. It could be argued that this grants specialist function, serving such a broad spectrum of state and local agencies, would be more appropriately housed under DOA's Bureau of Intergovernmental Relations. This Bureau serves as a federal grant application clearinghouse, coordinating applications by all state agencies for federal funding. Therefore, it may be considered that this position could replicate to some degree work being performed by the Bureau. However, OJA argues that the Bureau of Intergovernmental Relations serves only as a clearinghouse and does not provide the types of services envisioned for this position, including solicitation of foundation funds.

7. Further, the Bureau's focus is on state-federal relations. Therefore, according to OJA, local agencies have nowhere to turn to for assistance. OJA indicates that it receives daily phone calls from sheriff's departments and other local agencies asking for information and assistance in securing federal funds. OJA envisions that the focus of the position would be working with local agencies, and argues that it has great expertise in applying for a variety of federal grants and passing these funds on to local governments. OJA believes its grant-making knowledge and capability make it best suited for this position.

8. The goal of the position is bring additional grant dollars to Wisconsin. If the Committee chooses to approve the position, a two-year project position, rather than a permanent position, could be considered. Under this alternative, OJA could be required to prepare a report for the Legislature no later than January 1, 2001, on the accomplishments of the grants specialist, including a listing of grants received by state and local agencies attributable to the grants specialist's efforts. This could provide the Legislature with information on the success of this approach before considering whether to make the position permanent.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve the Governor's recommendation to provide \$36,300 GPR in 1999-00 and \$39,800 GPR in 2000-01 and authorize 1.0 GPR grants specialist position.

2. Modify the Governor's recommendation by providing a two-year project position,

rather than a permanent position, and require OJA to submit a report to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2001, detailing the accomplishments of the position, including a listing of grants received by state and local agencies attributable to the position's efforts.

3. Delete the position.

<u>Alternative 3</u>	<u>GPR</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	- \$76,100
2000-01 POSITIONS (Change to Bill)	- 1.00

Prepared by: Debbie Salm

MO# Alt 2

1 BURKE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
DECKER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
JAUCH	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
MOORE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
SHIBILSKI	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
PLACHE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
COWLES	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
PANZER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
2 GARD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
PORTER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
KAUFERT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
ALBERS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
DUFF	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
WARD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
HUBER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
RILEY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A

AYE 16 NO 0 ABS _____

Gov Agency: DOA (Office of Justice Assistance) – Full Funding of Information Systems Position

Recommendations:

Paper No. 186 Alternative 2 ✓

Comments:

This alternative deletes some funding to correct a calculation error in the reclassification and provides funding for an information systems-comprehensive specialist position.

This position would work in the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), which is the repository for Wisconsin crime and arrest data under the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. The SAC collects, analyzes, interprets and disseminates criminal justice data for Wisconsin.

OJA argues if funds are not provided to fill the position at the reclassified level, it may not be able to sustain its database operations relating to the UCR program.

Prepared by: Deb



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

May 6, 1999

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #186

Full Funding of Information Systems Position (DOA -- Office of Justice Assistance)

[LFB 1999-01 Budget Summary: Page 83, #8]

CURRENT LAW

Under standard budget adjustments, the cost of reclassifying permanent positions may be budgeted where 40 or fewer FTE permanent positions are authorized in a given appropriation.

GOVERNOR

Provide \$1,300 GPR and \$400 FED annually under the standard budget adjustments for the reclassification of an intermediate-level information systems position to an information systems--comprehensive specialist position. Provide \$13,300 GPR and \$4,400 FED annually to fully fund this position.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. The Governor's recommendation to provide full funding for the reclassified information systems--comprehensive specialist position duplicated, in part, funding provided for reclassifications under the standard budget adjustments. Therefore, \$1,300 GPR and \$400 FED annually should be deleted to reflect this correction.

2. Because this reclassified position was vacant at the time of the base reconciliation process, the higher salary was not reflected in the full funding of salary and fringe benefits calculation under the standard budget adjustment, resulting in a separate request to fully fund the position.

3. The reclassification was necessary, according to the Office of Justice Assistance (OJA), because of the great difficulty in filling this position at the lower classification. The position

has been vacant since April, 1997, because OJA has not been able to find a suitable candidate at the lower classification. OJA recruited for the position several times and offered the position to qualified candidates twice, but the offers were declined.

4. The position would work in the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), which is the repository for Wisconsin crime and arrest data under the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. The SAC collects, analyzes, interprets and disseminates criminal justice data for Wisconsin. The duties of the position include database design, modification and maintenance; developing interfaces and data exchange processes with other state and local data systems; web site design and maintenance; and programming for analyses and special reporting.

5. According to OJA, it has been able to minimally maintain its database operation and troubleshoot problems by securing occasional services from its previous IT staff on a limited term (LTE) basis, and by prevailing on consultants who are on-site doing systems migration work. These services will no longer be available.

6. OJA has 4.82 GPR positions in its adjusted base, including 0.15 of the unclassified executive director position. This represents portions of 11 positions (federal grants fund the remaining portions). Except for the IS position, all the positions are filled, with incumbents in the positions from one to 11 years. There appears to be little turnover in the agency. The amount provided under the bill to fully fund this position represents 8% of its adjusted base GPR salary line. OJA argues that, because of its limited GPR funds and low turnover rate, the general fund appropriation can not absorb the cost of this position. If funds are not provided to fill the position at the reclassified level, OJA indicates it may not be able to sustain its database operations relating to the UCR program.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve Governor's recommendation to provide \$1,300 GPR and \$400 FED annually under the standard budget adjustments for the reclassification of an intermediate-level information systems position to an information systems--comprehensive specialist position and an additional \$13,300 GPR and \$4,400 FED annually to fully fund the position.

2. Delete \$1,300 GPR and \$400 FED annually to correct a calculation error in providing full funding for the information systems--comprehensive specialist position.

<u>Alternative 2</u>	<u>GPR</u>	<u>FED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	-\$2,600	-\$800	-\$3,400

3. Delete \$13,300 GPR and \$400 FED annually to remove GPR full funding for the information systems--comprehensive specialist position and to correct a calculation error in providing full funding under the federal appropriation.

<u>Alternative 3</u>	<u>GPR</u>	<u>FED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	-\$26,600	-\$800	-\$27,400

Prepared by: Debbie Salm

MO# Alt. 2

BURKE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
DECKER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
JAUCH	<input type="radio"/>	N	A
MOORE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
SHIBILSKI	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
PLACHE	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
COWLES	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
PANZER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
2 GARD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
PORTER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
KAUFERT	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
ALBERS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
DUFF	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
WARD	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
HUBER	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A
RILEY	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	N	A

AYE _____ NO _____ ABS _____