

Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #625

Programmatic Funding Realignment (Public Defender)

CURRENT LAW

Under 2017 Act 59, the SPD's GPR appropriations for the trial representation, appellate representation, private bar, salary adjustments, and discovery were combined into a single biennial appropriation. Base funding for each of these components is: (a) program operation \$3,112,600 GPR annually; (b) appellate representation \$5,241,600 GPR annually; (c) trial representation \$60,906,300 GPR annually; (d) private bar investigation reimbursements \$41,648,400 GPR annually; (e) private bar investigation pay administration \$735,100 GPR annually; and (f) transcripts, discovery and interpreter costs \$1,506,900 GPR annually.

MODIFICATION

Transfer funding annually within SPD's GPR program operation appropriation between private bar and investigator reimbursement (-\$622,800 GPR) and transcripts, discovery, and interpreter costs (\$622,800 GPR) in order to align budgeted funding with programmatic expenditures.

Explanation: The transfer reflects the actual expenditures of the SPD in 2021-22 and is expected to be ongoing. In the 2023-25 biennium, total, funding for transcripts, discovery and interpreter costs would be \$2,129,609 GPR annually, while private bar and investigator reimbursement would be \$41,025,691 GPR annually. These amounts would serve as base funding for the allocations in the 2025-27 biennium.

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