
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5362

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Dhingra, Frame, Hasegawa, Salomon, Trudeau, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to victims of crime act funding; adding a new
2 section to chapter 7.68 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

5 (a) The continuity and sustainability of victim services programs
6 are essential to public safety;

7 (b) Federal victims of crime act funding is the most significant
8 resource for crime victim services in Washington state, funding
9 programs in every county and for every type of harm;

10 (c) The fluctuations of federal funding levels strain the
11 infrastructure needed to equitably resource victim services; and

12 (d) The consequences of unstable and insufficient funding has
13 immediate impacts on the lives and safety of crime victims, families,
14 and communities.

15 (2) Washington state commits to providing for the continuity of
16 victim services programs to ensure trauma-informed, culturally
17 relevant, accessible, and high-quality services for victims of crime.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 7.68 RCW
19 to read as follows:

1 (1) The victims of crime act account is created in the state
2 treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after
3 appropriation.

4 (2) Beginning in fiscal year 2026, the state treasurer must
5 transfer into the victims of crime act account from the general fund
6 the following sums, less the amount received by the state pursuant to
7 the federal victims of crime act of 1984, 34 U.S.C. Sec. 20101 et
8 seq., and as thereafter amended, in the previous fiscal year, as
9 determined by the office of financial management:

10 (a) \$50,000,000 per fiscal year for fiscal years 2026, 2027,
11 2028, and 2029;

12 (b) \$60,000,000 per fiscal year for fiscal years 2030, 2031,
13 2032, and 2033; and

14 (c) \$70,000,000 per fiscal year for each fiscal year thereafter.

15 (3) Expenditures from the account may be used for programs
16 providing services for victims of crime throughout the state.
17 Expenditures from the account:

18 (a) Must be administered in a unified process with federal
19 victims of crime act funds and the victims of crime act state plan,
20 with separate reporting as necessary to comply with federal and state
21 regulations;

22 (b) Shall be used to supplement, but not supplant, funding that
23 programs providing services for victims of crime receive from other
24 sources;

25 (c) May be used as a match for federal victims of crime act
26 funds; and

27 (d) May not be used for capital projects.

28 (4) Not more than five percent of the funds deposited in the
29 victims of crime act account under this section may be available for
30 the administrative costs of the office of crime victims advocacy in
31 supporting programs providing services for victims of crime
32 throughout the state.

33 (5) The office of crime victims advocacy shall submit a report to
34 the legislature with data on crime victim services and
35 recommendations for future aggregate funding levels for the victims
36 of crime act account every five years, with a preliminary report due
37 December 15, 2039.

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