
SENATE BILL 5362

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Senators Dhingra, Frame, Hasegawa, Salomon, Trudeau, and C. Wilson

Read first time 01/20/25. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

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) In each fiscal year, the legislature shall include in the
2 annual budget bill an appropriation that, together with the amount
3 received under the federal victims of crime act in the prior year,
4 totals:

5 (a) An aggregate \$50,000,000 annually for the 2025-2027 and
6 2027-2029 biennia;

7 (b) An aggregate \$60,000,000 annually for the 2029-2031 and 2031-
8 2033 biennia;

9 (c) An aggregate \$70,000,000 annually for the 2033-2035 biennium
10 and thereafter.

11 (2) After reaching an aggregate of \$70,000,000, the office of
12 crime victims advocacy shall submit a report to the legislature with
13 data on crime victim services and recommendations for future
14 aggregate funding levels every five years, with a preliminary report
15 due December 15, 2039.

16 (3) The office of crime victims advocacy shall support programs
17 providing services for victims of crime throughout the state and
18 ensure that state funds awarded under this section:

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

23 (b) Shall be used to supplement, but not supplant, funding that
24 the programs receive from other 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.

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