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**SENATE BILL 6090**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Holy, Dozier, Fortunato, Lovick, Mullet, Schoesler, Short, Wagoner, and J. Wilson

Read first time 01/09/24. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of a law enforcement hiring grant  
2 program; and adding a new section to chapter 43.101 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.101  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
7 specific purpose, the commission shall develop and implement a law  
8 enforcement hiring grant program for the purpose of providing direct  
9 support to local and tribal law enforcement agencies in hiring law  
10 enforcement officers to increase community policing and public  
11 safety.

12 (2) Grants provide up to 75 percent of the entry-level salaries  
13 and fringe benefits of full-time local or tribal law enforcement  
14 officers for a maximum of 36 months, with a minimum 25 percent local  
15 cash match requirement and a maximum state share of \$125,000 per law  
16 enforcement officer position. Any additional costs for salaries and  
17 benefits higher than entry level are the responsibility of the grant  
18 recipient agency. The grants cannot be used for any costs other than  
19 salaries and benefits. These grants are intended for the purpose of  
20 increasing the number of filled local and tribal law enforcement  
21 officer positions in Washington state. Grants shall not be awarded

1 for any local or tribal law enforcement position if the applicant is,  
2 or has been within the previous 12 calendar months, employed by a  
3 local or tribal law enforcement agency in Washington state.

4 (3) Grants must be awarded to local and tribal law enforcement  
5 agencies based on local and tribal law enforcement agency submittals  
6 to the commission. Under this section the commission shall:

7 (a) Establish policies for applications;

8 (b) Establish and publish on the commission website the  
9 application requirements;

10 (c) Establish and publish on the commission website the criteria  
11 for evaluating and selecting grant recipients;

12 (d) Create a grant application form that local and tribal law  
13 enforcement agencies must use to apply for grant funding; and

14 (e) Require reports from grant recipients that must include at  
15 least how the funding impacted retention rates and improved vacancy  
16 rates, and the estimated time the applying agency took from  
17 recruitment to hiring in the last closed fiscal year.

18 (4) Effective July 31, 2024, and annually thereafter on July  
19 31st, the commission must report to the appropriate committees of the  
20 legislature on:

21 (a) The total count of law enforcement grant applications  
22 received by the commission by fiscal year;

23 (b) The total count of law enforcement officer positions applied  
24 for by fiscal year;

25 (c) The total count of grant funding requested by fiscal year;

26 (d) The name of each law enforcement entity that applied for the  
27 grant, how many officers they requested funding for, and how much  
28 state funding they requested by fiscal year; and

29 (e) The count of grants awarded, to include the name of each law  
30 enforcement entity that was an award recipient for the grant, how  
31 many officers they received funding for, and how much state funding  
32 they were awarded by fiscal year.

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