

SSB 5998 - S AMD 790

By Senator Holy

NOT ADOPTED 02/27/2026

1 On page 555, after line 29, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 922. RCW 43.101.540 and 2025 c 350 s 101 are each amended
3 to read as follows:

4 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
5 specific purpose, including amounts appropriated from the
6 supplemental criminal justice account created in RCW 43.101.542, the
7 commission shall develop and implement a local law enforcement grant
8 program for the purpose of providing direct support to local and
9 tribal law enforcement agencies in hiring, retaining, and training
10 law enforcement officers, peer counselors, and behavioral health
11 personnel working in co-response to increase community policing and
12 public safety.

13 (2) Under this section, the commission shall:

14 (a) Establish the policies for applications and publish them on
15 the commission's website;

16 (b) Establish the procedures for submitting the grant
17 applications and publish them on the commission's website;

18 (c) Establish and publish on the commission's website the
19 criteria for evaluating and selecting grant recipients; and

20 (d) Create a grant application form that local and tribal law
21 enforcement agencies must use to apply for grant funding.

22 (3) The grants under the local law enforcement grant program must
23 be awarded to local and tribal law enforcement agencies based on
24 their submittals to the commission.

25 (4) (a) To qualify for a grant pursuant to this section in the
26 2025-2027 fiscal biennium, a law enforcement agency must have:

27 (i) Participated in commission training as required by RCW
28 43.101.455 and 36.28A.445; and

29 (ii) A chief of police, marshal, or sheriff who is certified by
30 the commission pursuant to this chapter and who has not:

31 (A) Been convicted of a felony anywhere in the United States or
32 under foreign law; or

1 (B) Been convicted of a gross misdemeanor involving moral
2 turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, or corruption.

3 (b) To qualify for a grant pursuant to this section in fiscal
4 year 2028, a law enforcement agency must have:

5 ~~((a))~~ (i) Issued and implemented policies and practices
6 consistent with RCW 43.17.425 and 10.93.160, and the office of the
7 attorney general's keep Washington working act guide, model policies,
8 and training recommendations for state and local law enforcement
9 agencies;

10 ~~((b))~~ (ii) Participated in commission training as required by
11 RCW 43.101.455 and 36.28A.445;

12 ~~((c))~~ (iii) Issued and implemented policies and practices
13 regarding use of force and de-escalation tactics consistent with RCW
14 10.120.030 and the office of the attorney general's model policies,
15 and all other commission and attorney general model policies
16 regarding use of force for law enforcement including, but not limited
17 to, duty to intervene and training and use of canine teams;

18 ~~((d))~~ (iv) Implemented use of force data collection and
19 reporting consistent with chapters 10.118 and 10.120 RCW when the
20 program is operational, as confirmed by a notice from the attorney
21 general's office to all police chiefs and sheriffs;

22 ~~((e))~~ (v) Issued and implemented policies and practices
23 consistent with chapters 7.105 and 9.41 RCW and the commission model
24 policies and training addressing firearm relinquishment pursuant to
25 court orders;

26 ~~((f))~~ (vi) A 25 percent officer completion rate with the
27 commission's 40-hour crisis intervention team training;

28 ~~((g))~~ (vii) A 100 percent officer compliance rate for those
29 officers required to complete trauma-informed, gender-based violence
30 interviewing, investigation, response, and case review training
31 developed or approved by the commission pursuant to RCW 43.101.272
32 and 43.101.276, and if requested by the commission, participated in
33 agency case reviews;

34 ~~((h))~~ (viii) Except as it applies to tribal law enforcement
35 agencies, received funding from a sales and use tax authorized
36 pursuant to RCW 82.14.340 or 82.14.450, or authorized pursuant to RCW
37 82.14.345 before the awarding of the grant;

38 ~~((i))~~ (ix) A chief of police, marshal, or sheriff who is
39 certified by the criminal justice training commission pursuant to
40 this chapter and who has not:

1 ~~((i))~~ (A) Been convicted of a felony anywhere in the United
2 States or under foreign law; or

3 ~~((ii))~~ (B) Been convicted of a gross misdemeanor involving
4 moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, or corruption; and

5 ~~((j))~~ (x) Issued and implemented policies and practices that
6 prohibit volunteers who assist with agency work from enforcing
7 criminal laws, other than for assistance with special event traffic
8 and parking, including engaging in pursuits, detention, arrests, the
9 use of force, or the use of deadly force; carrying or the use of
10 firearms or other weapons; or the use of dogs to track people or
11 animals other than for purposes of search and rescue; and that set
12 forth the required supervision of volunteers, including that they
13 must be clearly identifiable by the public as distinguishable from
14 peace officers and any identifying insignia must be officially issued
15 by the agency and used only when on duty.

16 ~~((4))~~ (5) In verifying the applicant's compliance with
17 subsection ~~((3))~~ (4)(b) of this section, the commission shall
18 assess the qualifications of the applicant agency under subsection
19 ~~((3)(a) and (e))~~ (4)(b)(i) and (iii) of this section in
20 consultation with the office of the attorney general.

21 ~~((5))~~ (6) In addition to the requirements of subsection ~~((3))~~
22 (4)(b) of this section, in order to qualify for a grant pursuant to
23 this section during fiscal year 2028, a law enforcement agency must
24 provide the commission, at time of application for grant moneys, a
25 detailed staffing plan specifying the following:

26 (a) The total number of commissioned officers currently employed
27 by the agency;

28 (b) The total number of specially commissioned officers currently
29 employed by the agency;

30 (c) The total number of co-response teams established within the
31 agency and what staffing are included in each co-response team;

32 (d) The total number of administrative staff currently employed
33 by the agency;

34 (e) The number of officers on flexible work schedules;

35 (f) The average 911 response rate of the agency over the 12-month
36 period immediately preceding the month in which the agency is
37 applying for the grant; and

38 (g) The average case closure rate of the agency over the 12-month
39 period immediately preceding the month in which the agency is
40 applying for the grant.

1 ~~((6))~~ (7) The commission may provide an advance on grant
2 funding to a law enforcement agency that does not qualify under
3 subsection ~~((3)(b), (f), or (g))~~ (4)(b)(ii), (vi), or (vii) of this
4 section, but who otherwise meets the grant application criteria
5 established by the commission in subsection (2) of this section.
6 Funds advanced under this subsection must be used by the agency to
7 cover the costs of sending officers to the trainings required under
8 subsection ~~((3))~~ (4)(b) of this section, including any overtime
9 costs.

10 ~~((7))~~ (8) Grant funding awarded to local and tribal law
11 enforcement agencies may only be used for the purposes of:

12 (a) Recruiting, funding, and retaining new law enforcement
13 officers from the community in which the officer will be working,
14 and, except during the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium, recruiting,
15 funding, and retaining new county corrections officers, peer
16 counselors, and behavioral health personnel working in co-response in
17 Washington state. Grants may provide up to 75 percent of the entry-
18 level salaries and fringe benefits of full-time local or tribal law
19 enforcement officers for a maximum of 36 months, with a minimum 25
20 percent local cash match requirement and a maximum state share of
21 \$125,000 per position. Any additional costs for salaries and benefits
22 higher than entry level are the responsibility of the grant recipient
23 agency. Recruiting lateral hires is not a permissible use of funds
24 under this section;

25 (b) Funding use of force, de-escalation, crisis intervention, and
26 trauma-informed trainings for officers to remain in compliance with
27 the commission's required trainings; and

28 (c) Funding broader law enforcement and public safety efforts
29 including, but not limited to, emergency management planning,
30 environmental hazard mitigations, security personnel, community
31 outreach and assistance programs, alternative response programs, and
32 mental health crisis response.

33 ~~((8))~~ (9) In selecting grant recipients, the commission shall
34 prioritize those law enforcement agency applicants in the following
35 order:

36 (a) Those who are seeking grants to establish co-response teams
37 or community immersion law enforcement programs;

38 (b) Those who currently maintain co-response teams and are
39 seeking grants to hire additional law enforcement officers;

40 (c) All other applicants.

1 (~~(9)~~) (10) This section expires June 30, 2028."

2 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any
3 internal references accordingly.

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4 On page 1, line 4 of the title, after "43.79.565" insert
5 "43.101.540"

EFFECT: (1) Narrows requirements for local law enforcement grants issued in the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium to only require that the applicant agency: (a) Have participated in required Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) training; and (b) have a chief of police, marshal, or sheriff certified by the CJTC as not having been convicted of any felony or a gross misdemeanor involving fraud, dishonesty, or corruption.

(2) Restricts use of grant funding during the 2025-2027 biennium for personnel to recruiting, funding, and training law enforcement officers.

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