
OFA Bill Analysis

HB 5363

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ACCOUNT TO COMPENSATE FAMILIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

SUMMARY:

The bill establishes a separate, non-lapsing account in the General Fund called the "Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Account." The account must contain (1) any amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by the state, (2) any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account, and (3) any gifts, grants, donations, or bequests. Any balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year is automatically carried forward in the account for the next fiscal year.

Under the bill, the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) must use funds in the account for the purpose of providing grants to the families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. The department may establish an application process for eligible persons to apply for the grant and may deduct funds in the account equal to the costs of administering the account, not to exceed two percent of the funds deposited into the account in any fiscal year.

The bill also requires DESPP to submit an annual report, starting not later than January 1, 2025, to the Public Safety and Appropriations committees regarding the following information from the previous calendar year:

1. the number of grant applications received;
 2. the number of eligible persons or families that received grants;
 3. the amounts in grants made to each such eligible person or family;
- and

4. any recommendations regarding the distribution of moneys from the account, including any proposed legislation to facilitate the account's purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 52 Nay 0 (04/20/2023)