

Public Defender Services Commission PDS98500

Permanent Full-Time Positions

Fund	Actual FY 21	Actual FY 22	Appropriation FY 23	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
General Fund	451	451	451	451	451	451	451

Budget Summary

Account	Actual FY 21	Actual FY 22	Appropriation FY 23	Governor Recommended		Legislative	
				FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
Personal Services	42,732,235	45,574,854	45,690,053	49,144,096	49,817,598	49,144,096	51,267,598
Other Expenses	1,683,214	1,531,065	1,565,163	1,565,163	1,565,163	1,565,163	1,565,163
Other Current Expenses							
Assigned Counsel - Criminal	17,630,284	19,534,295	23,222,393	23,222,393	23,222,393	32,314,004	33,764,004
Expert Witnesses	1,605,961	2,284,121	2,775,604	2,775,604	2,775,604	2,775,604	2,775,604
Training And Education	116,354	117,882	119,748	119,748	119,748	119,748	119,748
Agency Total - General Fund	63,768,048	69,042,217	73,372,961	76,827,004	77,500,506	85,918,615	89,492,117
Additional Funds Available							
American Rescue Plan Act	-	-	2,023,821	2,023,821	2,023,821	1,956,360	-
Agency Grand Total	63,768,048	69,042,217	75,396,782	78,850,825	79,524,327	87,874,975	89,492,117

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
Assigned Counsel - Criminal	-	-	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611
Total - General Fund	-	-	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611

Policy Revisions

Provide Funding to Increase Assigned Counsel Rates

Assigned Counsel - Criminal	-	-	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611
Total - General Fund	-	-	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611	8,841,611

Legislative

Provide funding of \$8,841,611 in FY 24 and FY 25 to increase assigned counsel rates by approximately 35% in FY 24.

Expand Legal Representation for Young Adults to 23

Assigned Counsel - Criminal	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000
Total - General Fund	-	-	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000

Background

Under current law, only in certain cases are young adults over the age of 18 in the care of Department of Children and Families (DCF) able to continue PDS services to age 23. The contracted attorneys who represent these young adults are paid a flat fee of \$500 for the duration of the case. Cases who may be extended would be treated as new cases, requiring and an additional \$500 per case, resulting in an estimated cost of \$250,000 annually.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$250,000 in FY 24 and in FY 25 to support cases of DCF young adults to age 23.

Account	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25

Provide Funding to Increase Eligibility Thresholds

Personal Services	-	-	-	1,450,000	-	1,450,000
Assigned Counsel - Criminal	-	-	-	1,450,000	-	1,450,000
Total - General Fund	-	-	-	2,900,000	-	2,900,000

Background

The Public Defender Services Commission (PDS) sets the eligibility thresholds to receive services from PDS which is based upon the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). PDS current practice is to set the eligibility threshold at 200% of FPL.

Legislative

Provide funding of \$2,900,000 in FY 25 to increase income eligibility levels to 250% of FPL in FY 25.

Current Services

Provide Funding for Existing Wage Agreements

Personal Services	5,115,474	5,788,976	5,115,474	5,788,976	-	-
Total - General Fund	5,115,474	5,788,976	5,115,474	5,788,976	-	-

Background

The Governor's Recommended Budget provides net funding of \$237.2 million in FY 24 and \$394 million in FY 25, across six appropriated funds, to reflect current wage-related adjustments resulting from existing wage agreements.

Governor

Provide funding of \$5,115,474 in FY 24 and \$5,788,976 in FY 25 to reflect this agency's increased wage costs.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Remove Funding for 27th Payroll

Personal Services	(1,661,431)	(1,661,431)	(1,661,431)	(1,661,431)	-	-
Total - General Fund	(1,661,431)	(1,661,431)	(1,661,431)	(1,661,431)	-	-

Background

The FY 23 Revised Budget included a total of \$128,456,014 for an extra 27th pay period for six appropriated funds. There are usually 26 pay periods in a fiscal year, but every 11 years there is an additional 27th pay period.

Governor

Remove funding of \$1,661,431 in both FY 24 and FY 25 to reflect 26 pay periods in each fiscal year.

Legislative

Same as Governor

Totals

Budget Components	Governor Recommended		Legislative		Difference from Governor	
	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25	FY 24	FY 25
FY 23 Appropriation - GF	73,372,961	73,372,961	73,372,961	73,372,961	-	-
Policy Revisions	-	-	9,091,611	11,991,611	9,091,611	11,991,611
Current Services	3,454,043	4,127,545	3,454,043	4,127,545	-	-
Total Recommended - GF	76,827,004	77,500,506	85,918,615	89,492,117	9,091,611	11,991,611