
DIGEST

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HB 442 Reengrossed

2023 Regular Session

Edmonds

Abstract: Provides relative to the funding of bulletproof vests for peace officers in the state and requires the La. Commission of Law Enforcement to promulgate rules and regulations necessary to provide for the standards of bulletproof vests.

Present law requires the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections (DPS&C) to provide bulletproof vests to every peace officer in the state of La. provided that funds are appropriated for this purpose. Further provides that to the extent that funds are not appropriated for this purpose, DPS&C may make available for purchase to law enforcement agencies bulletproof vests no longer utilized by the department for which the manufacturer warranty has expired. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires the La. Commission on Law Enforcement to promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with present law (Administrative Procedure Act) that are necessary to provide for the standards of bulletproof vests and other rules and regulations necessary for the administration and enforcement of this matter.

Proposed law creates the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections Special Protective Equipment Fund (fund) in the state treasury for the purposes of funding bulletproof vests for peace officers. Requires monies in the fund to be invested in the same manner as monies in the general fund. Provides that interest earned on investment of monies be credited to the fund and requires that unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year remain in the fund.

Proposed law requires the state treasurer, beginning July 1, 2023 and continuing each July first thereafter, to deposit into the fund at the beginning of each fiscal year \$8,500,000 from the state general fund. Proposed law further authorizes the treasurer to deposit into the fund gifts, grants, donations, or monies from any source designated for the fund.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 40:2405.1(A); Adds R.S. 40:2405.1(E) and (F))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original bill:

1. Make the bill effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial

action.

2. Delete requirement that the treasurer deposit at the beginning of each fiscal year \$8.5M in gifts, grants, or donations to the fund.
3. Delete provision authorizing the legislature to appropriate extra monies into the fund.
4. Require the treasurer each July 1st to deposit \$8.5M from the state general fund into the fund.
5. Authorize the treasurer to deposit into the fund all gifts, grants, donations, and other revenues that he receives that are designated for the fund.
6. Reinstate present law regarding Dept. authorization to make available its surplusd bulletproof vests if funds are not appropriated to the Dept. for the purchase and distribution of new vests.