

**Senate Finance
Public Safety
Budget Subcommittee**
Alaska State Legislature

Senator Peter A. Micciche
Alaska State Capitol, Rm. 508
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Phone: (907) 465-2828
Toll Free: (800) 964-5733

Members:
Senator David Wilson
Senator Berta Gardner



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FY2019 SENATE FINANCE BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NARRATIVE REPORT
March 26, 2018**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Public Safety submits a recommended operating budget for FY2019 to the Senate Finance Committee as follows:

Unrestricted General Fund (UGF)	158,940.3
Designated General Fund (DGF)	8,157.4
Other Funds	11,217.0
Federal Funds	16,487.6
TOTAL	194,802.3

BUDGET ACTION:

The Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Public Safety held 2 meetings and many telephone conversations with the Department while analyzing the Governor's amended budget. In the interest of a stronger Department of Public Safety, in light of current crime and opioid abuse trends, balanced against challenging fiscal times, the following are budget action highlights:

Deny the following:

- Public Safety Action Plan Components \$3,725.5 UGF, \$125.0 DGF, 8 PFTs and 2 Non-Perm Positions
 - AST access to Rural Communities \$2,000.0 UGF
 - Bureau of Investigation \$570.6 UGF and 2 non-perm Positions
 - Wildlife Troopers: Aircraft Section \$335.0 UGF and 2 PFT Positions
 - Criminal Justice Information System Program \$595.0 and 6 PFT Positions
 - Commissioners Office: Emergency Communications Feasibility Study \$150.0 UGF
 - Building Inspection and Rural Firefighter Training \$75.0 UGF, \$125.0 DGF

Accept the following:

- CDVSA: Increased Federal Victims of Crime Act Funding \$4,004.8 Federal Receipts
- Criminal Justice Information Systems: \$1,000.0 Federal Receipts
- Administrative Services: Delete Accounting Tech II and Delete uncollectable CIP Receipts (\$100.0) [(\$80.0) UGF and (\$20) CIP Receipts Other] and (1) PFT
- Reduce/Remove Uncollectable Funding Sources (\$3,756.9) Various DGF/Other and Federal Receipts

Accept Other Actions:

Organizational Changes (reorganization only, no new positions): Funding and positions from the Statewide Information Technology Services allocation were separated into the following two allocations:

- Information Systems: \$2,889.7 and 12 PFT positions
- Criminal Justice Information Systems Program: \$7,956.3 and 42 PFT positions and 1 Temporary position

The department states that the structure change is needed to more clearly identify the types of services provided within each of these allocations. Again, no additional funding or positions are requested or accepted.

Alaska State Trooper Hiring and Retention: The need to hire and retain Alaska State Troopers is more critical than ever in response to recent crime and opioid abuse trends. It is the intent of the Chairman of the Subcommittee to offer before the full Finance Committee an amendment meant to begin addressing current Alaska State trooper recruitment and retention issues as per the December 2017 Alaska Department of Public Safety: Recruitment and Retention Plan Overview 2018-2023. The loss of trained and seasoned Troopers to retirement and other law enforcement agencies is at critical levels. Low numbers of recruits entering the academy and the AST ranks is also of great concern.

The planned amendment will require Department of Administration review and action related to the salary schedule of commissioned Alaska State Trooper recruits and Troopers to bring greater pay parity with other competing departments.

Add Intent language: It is the intent of the legislature that the Department disburse funding meant for the VPSO Program to VPSO grant recipients. VPSO grantees are encouraged to use the funding for recruitment and retention of VPSOs, to include consideration of increases to the VPSO salary schedule. However, they may also use the funds for other purposes within their mission, such as operational costs to better utilize filled positions or housing multiple VPSOs in a single community, if judged to be more beneficial to public safety.

Attachments:

- Agency Totals
- TransactionCompare1
- TransactionCompare2
- Wordage



Senator Peter Micciche, Chair



Senator David Wilson



Senator Bert Gardner