

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 54 **DATE:** March 16, 2007
Version: With the delete everything amendment
Authors: Mullery
Subject: Public safety grants and aid to cities and counties
Analyst: Pat Dalton, 651-296-7434

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

Provides a new law enforcement aid program beginning in 2008 for cities with a population of 10,000 or more and for counties. City aid under this program must be used for increased law enforcement spending. County aid under this program must be used for increased spending on prosecution and probation. \$26 million is appropriated annually for the city aid with 5 percent set aside for grants to smaller cities that had unusually high policing expenses in the previous year. \$14 million is appropriated annually for the county aid.

Section

- 1 Law Enforcement grants.** Establishes a program under the Department of Public Safety to make grants to cities that don't qualify for city law enforcement aid for law enforcement costs associated with an unusual level or type of violent crime in the city in the previous year. Provides a mechanism for applying for the grants. The grants are funded from \$1.3 million of the \$26 million in city law enforcement aid set aside for this purpose.
- 2 Law enforcement aid.** Sets up a law enforcement aid program for cities and counties. Effective beginning with aids payable in 2008.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines the three types of serious crimes used in determining aid under this program. The crimes are:

- murder;
- robbery; and

Section

- aggravated assault.

Defines cities who qualify for aid as those with a population of 10,000 or more with a city police department. Defines average crime number to be the average number of offenses reported in that jurisdiction for the most recent five-year period for each of the crimes.

Subd. 2. City Law enforcement aid. Calculates the aid paid to each qualifying city. Ninety-five percent of the appropriation is split into thirds and each third is apportioned to the cities based on their relative share of the total average number of offenses in all qualifying cities for each of the three crimes. The remaining 5 percent of the appropriation is used to fund grants under section 0. The money must be spent for increased law enforcement spending above 2007 amounts.

Subd. 3. County law enforcement aid. Calculates the aid paid to each qualifying county. The appropriation is split into thirds and each third is apportioned to the counties based on their relative share of the total average number of offenses in the state for each of the three crimes. The money must be used to pay for prosecution and approbation costs above 2007 levels.

- 3 Law enforcement aid (appropriation).** Provides \$26 million annually for city law enforcement aid and \$14 million annually for county law enforcement aid. Any city law enforcement aid set aside for grants under section 1 that is not spent in a given year is distributed under the city law enforcement aid in the following year. Effective beginning with aids payable in 2008.