

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FY2015 HOUSE FINANCE BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NARRATIVE REPORT
FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rep. Bryce Edgmon, Chair	Rep. Feige	Rep. Foster
Rep. Hawker	Rep. Herron	Rep. Kawasaki
Rep. Tarr		

RECOMMENDATIONS

The House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Public Safety submits a recommended operating budget for FY2015 to the House Finance Committee as follows:

Unrestricted General Funds (UGF)	\$ 171,100.8
Designated General Funds (DGF)	6,552.2
Other Funds	17,674.5
Federal Funds	10,784.3
TOTAL	206,111.8

BUDGET ACTION

The House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Public Safety held four meetings with the Department and analyzed all of the Governor's budget transactions. The following are budget action highlights:

- The subcommittee recommends authorizing a decrease of \$3,428.0 in UGF, an increase of \$1,400.0 in Other Funds, and one less full-time position than the Governor's Amended FY2015 request. Total positions are 884 PFT's, 18 PPT's and 21 Temps.
- The subcommittee recommends a decrease from the FY2015 Adjusted Base of \$1,098.7 UGF and an increase of \$100.0 DGF for a total General Fund decrease of \$998.7. The change from Adjusted Base in Other Funds is an increase of \$2,310.0. The total change is an increase of \$1,311.3 and the reduction of one position.

Accepted:

1. Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault – Expand Shelter Programs for Children Exposed to Violence, \$250.0 UGF

This increment will expand programs for children exposed to violence who enter domestic violence shelters with adult victims. Programs to be expanded include group counseling sessions, child advocates, and training for shelter staff on impacts of domestic violence on children and child development.

2. Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault – Maintain Existing Services to Victims of DVSA, \$287.5 UGF

This funding helps cover basic operating expenses for shelters as well as transportation for victims in rural areas.

3. Alaska State Troopers – Alaska Wildlife Troopers (AWT) – Enhance Fish & Wildlife Enforcement, \$100.0 GF/PR

This funding will allow AWT to expend revenue collected from confiscated fish and use it to enhance enforcement efforts in the Bristol Bay salmon fishery and a directed moose and caribou program in the Copper Basin and Fairbanks areas.

4. Statewide Support – Laboratory Services – Strengthen Capacity to Conduct Timely Biological Screening and DNA Analysis in Sexual Assault Cases, \$115.0 UGF

This funding allows the department to re-class a vacant position to a Forensic Scientist III to investigate sexual assault cases. Sexual Assault cases are not being processed in a timely manner and this position will help the department to meet their goal of processing this type of evidence within 45 days.

Denied:

1. Village Public Safety Officer Program – Add 15 New VPSOs, \$3,078.7 UGF

While the subcommittee would like to see as many VPSO's working as possible, the department has to figure out how to fill and retain the dozens of open VPSO positions before the subcommittee considers adding more.

2. Village Public Safety Officer Program – One New Trooper in Dillingham for VPSO Oversight, \$349.3 UGF

This position was needed in conjunction with the 15 new VPSOs requested in the Governor's budget. Since those new VPSO positions have been denied, this request is also being denied.

AMENDMENT ACTION

The House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Public Safety also analyzed the Governor's budget amendment and took the following action:

Accepted:

1. Alaska State Troopers – Special Projects – Restore the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol, \$2,200.0 UGF

This budget amendment reverses a \$2.2 million cut proposed in the Governor's original budget, which would have disbanded the ABHP. Accepting this amendment allows the 19 troopers assigned to the ABHP to continue specializing in traffic enforcement and fatal crash investigations.

OTHER ACTION

Accepted:

1. Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault – Increase I/A for Community Based Prevention Projects, \$1,400.0 Other Funds

The subcommittee approves this increase in receipt authority as part of the Governor's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault initiative.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. VPSO Program

The subcommittee recommends the department concentrate efforts on filling their open VPSO positions before looking to add positions. We also recommend the department come up with new ideas on how to better recruit and retain candidates for these positions.

2. Marine Enforcement

The subcommittee is unconvinced that two budget items involving the Patrol Vessels Stimson and Woldstad make operational sense. While we have accepted their budget request at the subcommittee level, the Subcommittee Chairman intends to offer amendments in the full Finance committee that would keep the P/V Stimson in Dutch Harbor and that would stop the decommissioning of the P/V Woldstad.

ATTACHED REPORTS:

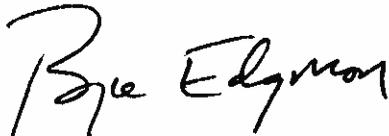
The House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Public Safety adopts the attached reports:

Subcommittee generated reports

Budget Action Worksheet

Legislative Finance Division Reports – House Structure

1. Agency Totals – FY2015 Operating Budget
2. Appropriation/Allocation Summary (All Funds)
3. Appropriation/Allocation Summary (GF)
4. Transaction Comparison between ADJ Base and H Subcomm
5. Transaction Comparison between Gov Amd and H Subcomm
6. Wordage Report – FY2015 Operating Budget



Representative Bryce Edgmon, Chair

House Finance Budget Subcommittee for the Department of Public Safety

February 27, 2014