
 DIGEST

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SB 143 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Edmonds

Proposed law creates the "Commission on Law Enforcement Bulletproof Vest Fund", as a special fund, in the state treasury.

Proposed law defines "commission", "eligible law enforcement agency", "fund", and "peace officer".

Proposed law requires monies in the fund to be invested in the same manner as monies in the general fund. Proposed law 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 treasurer to deposit into the fund any monies transferred or appropriated to the fund by the legislature. Additionally authorizes the treasurer to deposit any donations, gifts, grants, or other revenues, including federal funds received for the purchase of bulletproof vests, that are collected for the purposes of proposed law and received by the treasurer.

Proposed law requires the legislature to appropriate monies from the fund to the commission. Further requires monies in the fund to be used solely to provide financial assistance to eligible law enforcement agencies for the purchase of bulletproof vests for commissioned peace officers.

Proposed law provides that in awarding funds, the commission must give priority to eligible law enforcement agencies that demonstrate a lack of adequate bulletproof vests for their commissioned peace officers.

Proposed law authorizes the commission to consider the extent to which an agency lacks bulletproof vests, the number of officers without vests, and the agency's financial needs when determining awards. The commission may establish matching fund requirements or cost-sharing provisions as it deems appropriate.

Proposed law requires the commission to adopt rules with respect to all of the following:

- (1) Standards for the issuance of bulletproof vests.
- (2) Application procedures and requirements.
- (3) Criteria for awarding funds.
- (4) Reporting and accountability requirements for recipient agencies.

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

(Adds R.S. 40:2405.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the original bill

1. Remove provision creating the "Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections Special Protective Equipment Fund".

2. Remove provision requiring the state treasurer, beginning July 1, 2026, and each July first thereafter, to deposit into the fund \$8,500,000 from the state general fund.
3. Create the "Commission on Law Enforcement Bulletproof Vest Fund" and provide for the transfer, deposit, and use of monies in the fund.
4. Authorize the legislature to appropriate monies from the fund to the commission for any purpose authorized pursuant to proposed law.
5. Require monies in the fund to be used solely to provide financial assistance to eligible law enforcement agencies for the purchase of bulletproof vests for commissioned peace officers and establish funding priorities and criteria.
6. Require the commission to adopt rules.
7. Make technical changes.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Remove requirement that the commission administer the fund.
2. Require rather than authorize monies in the fund to be appropriated to the commission.
3. Remove language regarding donation of funds by the legislature.
4. Make technical and conforming changes.