RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 739 (SB 143) **2026 Regular Session** **Edmonds**

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

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

New law requires monies in the fund to be invested in the same manner as monies in the general fund. New 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.

New 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 new law and received by the treasurer.

New 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.

New 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.

New 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.

New 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 June 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 40:2405.2)