

HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
February 13, 2024  
1:37 p.m.

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CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Johnson called the House Finance Committee meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Bryce Edgmon, Co-Chair  
Representative Neal Foster, Co-Chair  
Representative DeLena Johnson, Co-Chair  
Representative Julie Coulombe  
Representative Mike Cronk  
Representative Alyse Galvin  
Representative Sara Hannan  
Representative Andy Josephson  
Representative Dan Ortiz  
Representative Will Stapp  
Representative Frank Tomaszewski

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

ALSO PRESENT

James Cockrell, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety;  
Pam Halloran, Admin Services Director, Department of Public Safety;  
Lisa Purinton, Director, Statewide Services, Department of Public Safety.

PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

Lloyd Nakano, State Fire Marshall, Division of Fire and Life Safety, Department of Public Safety, Anchorage.

SUMMARY

HB 268      APPROP: OPERATING BUDGET; CAP; SUPP; AM

HB 268 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

HB 270      APPROP: MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET

HB 268 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

OVERVIEW: FY 25 BUDGET

#hb268

#hb270

HOUSE BILL NO. 268

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and loan program expenses of state government and for certain programs; capitalizing funds; amending appropriations; making capital appropriations; making supplemental appropriations; making reappropriations; making appropriations under art. IX, sec. 17(c), Constitution of the State of Alaska, from the constitutional budget reserve fund; and providing for an effective date."

HOUSE BILL NO. 270

"An Act making appropriations for the operating and capital expenses of the state's integrated comprehensive mental health program; and providing for an effective date."

^OVERVIEW: FY 25 BUDGET

Co-Chair Johnson reviewed the meeting agenda.

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JAMES COCKRELL, COMMISSIONER, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, introduced himself and made opening remarks. He introduced the PowerPoint presentation "Department of Public Safety FY 2025 Budget Overview" dated February 13, 2024 (copy on file). He asserted that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) was headed in the right direction with the help of the governor. He mentioned the "disastrous" cuts the department experienced from 2014 through 2018. The Department of Public Safety's budget decreased because the department was progressing in the goals he established over the prior 3 years. He elaborated that the department was working arduously to provide professional law enforcement in all regions of the state. He thought it was important

the legislature become aware of the specifics of the department. In 2023, over 20 Alaska State Troopers graduated from the academy and 20 more troopers were expected to graduate in 2024. In addition, the troopers were wearing body cameras. He highlighted and applauded the efforts of wildlife troopers in its commercial fishing enforcement measures in protecting salmon bound for the Yukon River. He noted the deployment of the sexual assault examination kit tracking system.

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Representative Ortiz thanked the commissioner for his time. He believed that legislators had an obligation to take care of public safety. He congratulated the department on its successes. He asked what type of fishing was involved in the fishing violation. Commissioner Cockrell replied that it was the gillnet fleet. Representative Ortiz asked what type of illegal activity the gillnetters were engaged in. Commissioner Cockrell responded that it was against regulations to dump chum salmon overboard once caught, which was essential for an accurate count of all salmon caught.

Co-Chair Edgmon thanked the commissioner and the department for its work.

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Representative Galvin asked for more information on the sexual assault examination kit tracking system. Commissioner Cockrell replied that when law enforcement investigated a sexual assault, the assault kit could be scanned and tracked at all points in the process from the hospital, law enforcement, crime lab, through the conclusion of the case.

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PAM HALLORAN, ADMIN SERVICES DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, began the presentation on slide 2 titled "Mission, Key Objectives, and Statewide Impact:"

Mission:

The mission of the Department  
of Public Safety is to ensure  
public safety and enforce fish

and wildlife laws

Key Objectives:

Recruit and Retain

- Rural Law Enforcement and Safety
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Village Public Safety Officer Program
- Fisheries and Wildlife Resource Protection
- Narcotics and Major Crime Investigations

Statewide Impact

Law Enforcement Patrol and Investigations

- Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Lab
- Resource Protection
- Victim Services
- Special Patrol Activities
- Search and Rescue
- Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN)
- Alaska Land Mobile Radio Network (ALMR)

Ms. Halloran continued to slide 3 titled "Budget Organizational Chart."

Fire and Life Safety Division:

Building and fire safety inspections  
Plan Review Bureau  
Alaska Fire Standards Council

Alaska State Troopers:

Search and Rescue, Rural Trooper Housing, Dispatch Services, drug and alcohol enforcement, detachments (4), Alaska Bureau of Investigation, Aircraft Section, Alaska Wildlife Troopers, marine

enforcement, Prisoner Transportation,  
Special Projects, highway patrol

Village Public Safety Officer Division (VPSO):

Ten regional VPSO programs serving 140  
villages and tribes

Certification and de-certification of VPSOs

Alaska Police Standards Council:

Alaska police certification; misconduct and  
disqualification investigations; monitor  
compliance with regulation/legislation;  
develop, monitor, revise law enforcement  
training and training requirements

Victim Services Division:

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual  
Assault; Violent Crimes Compensation  
Board; Domestic Violence and Sexual  
Assault Training; Victim Navigator Program;  
Missing Persons Clearinghouse; Victim  
Services Administration and Support

Statewide Support:

Commissioner's Office; Training Academy;  
Division of Administrative Services; Alaska  
Public Safety Communication Services;  
Information Systems; Criminal Justice  
Information Systems Program; Alaska  
Statewide Crime Detection Laboratory;  
Facilities Maintenance and Rent

Ms. Halloran advanced to slide 4 titled "Funding History (FY 2019 - FY 2025)." The graph depicted each year's management plan and actuals up to the FY 25 governor's budget request. She delineated that the request comprised of roughly \$260 thousand in Undesignated General Funds (UGF) and the overall budget was a 3.4 percent increase from FY 24 that included 5.2 percent or approximately \$12 million of UGF. The decrease in Designated General Fund (DGF) was related to a multi-year program receipt authority for the Criminal Justice Information System Program that would end in the current fiscal year. She reported the

decrease in the other fund source, which was associated with the decrease in the Restorative Justice Fund account that was based on the number of non-eligible inmates for the Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD). The decrease would result in decreases in both the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) and the Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB). The increase in federal funding was related to a joint agreement with the Wildlife Troopers Marine Enforcement Unit and the federal government.

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Ms. Halloran continued to slide 5 titled "Department of Public Safety Funding Breakdown." The slide showed the FY 25 budget by line item on the left with personal services at 53 percent being the highest expense. The pie chart on the right portrayed the budget by allocation where the Alaska State Troopers comprised 62 percent of the overall budget.

Ms. Halloran discussed slide 6 titled "Department of Public Safety Funding Breakdown:"

Federal

- US Department of Justice
- Office for Victims of Crime
- Bureau of Justice Assistance
- Community Oriented Policing Services
- Bureau of Justice Statistics
- Department of Homeland Security
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Department of Transportation
- Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation

Other

- Interagency Receipts
- Capital Improvement Project
- Mental Health Trust Authority
- Crime Victim Compensation Fund

Designated General Funds

- General Fund Program Receipts
- Recidivism Reduction Fund

Ms. Halloran detailed that UGF was 79 percent, federal funds comprised 13 percent, other funding was 5 percent, and DGF was 3 percent of DPS's budget.

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Representative Galvin cited slide 4 and pointed to the actuals bar graph in FY 23 and wondered why not all the federal funding was utilized. Ms. Halloran answered that a fair amount of federal funding was not used in the Fire and Life Safety Division, where FEMA awards went underutilized due to COVID. Representative Galvin asked what it would mean to Alaskans in terms of services. Ms. Halloran deferred the answer.

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LLOYD NAKANO, STATE FIRE MARSHALL, DIVISION OF FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, ANCHORAGE (via teleconference), answered that the grant authority for \$500 thousand was not utilized because the live mobile fire trainer was still under evaluation, resulting in zero fiscal impact. The federal funds were mostly used for training equipment. Representative Galvin wondered if the federal funding could be used for emergency fire equipment. She noted the current supplemental budget request totaling \$61 million for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for fire equipment. Mr. Nakano replied that the \$61 million did not impact the division because it was within DNR. Representative Galvin understood that the missions were separate and different.

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Representative Hannan stated that she had been supportive of the mission of the department particularly for the \$24 million increase in the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program. The chart on slide 4 showed growth of \$132 million from 2019 to 2025. She asked for the reason of the significant budget growth. Commissioner Cockrell replied that he was not expecting the question. He reiterated that during FY 14 through FY 18, the department took substantial cuts that DPS was "still digging out of." The department had been told that troopers were going to be laid off and therefore there was no reason to hire new troopers during that time. It was a difficult time to be in the department

and it took time to rebuild it. He noted that the current administration was very supportive.

Representative Hannan thought the commissioner was spot on and she supported the department's vital constitutional mission. She voiced that there were two directives in the constitution: public safety and public education. She observed that on one hand, there was an awareness that the cuts were too deep, and it was being rectified. She continued that on the other hand, education was underfunded and being demanded to perform better with less money. She remarked on the direct correlation between budget and performance.

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Ms. Halloran identified other areas in which the department underspent its federal authority: the CDVSA and the Criminal Justice Information Systems Program (CJIS).

Ms. Halloran asked Representative Hannan to repeat the number she referenced to the commissioner. Representative Hannan answered that it was \$132 million. Ms. Halloran replied that she would take a closer look and provide the answer.

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Ms. Halloran informed the committee that the following slides would highlight the significant budget changes in each division. She continued on slide 7 titled "Fire and Life Safety Division". She elaborated that the request was \$7.3 million that included a \$200 thousand increase from FY 24. She pointed to a \$100,000 GF request for a new lease space adjacent to headquarters office for the Fire Life Safety Division.

Representative Josephson recalled that the Fire Standards Council was run by professional volunteers at night. He asked if he was correct. Ms. Halloran responded that the council had one staff member, an Administrative Assistant 11. She deferred to the commissioner for further answer.

Commissioner Cockrell replied that there was not an easy answer. He indicated that the council was not mandated in statute and two positions were lost in FY 18. He believed that it was a policy decision to place the council in

statute. Representative Josephson relayed that due to extraordinary efforts of one volunteer on the council there would not be anything left.

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Ms. Halloran moved to slide 8 titled "Alaska State Troopers Division." The budget requested over \$197 million including a 5 percent or \$9.4 million increase from FY 24. The budget reflected \$8 million in UGF increases for the division.

Ms. Halloran highlighted slide 9 titled "Alaska State Troopers Division - Significant Budget Changes:"

Strategies to Attract Qualified State Troopers,  
\$249.6 UGF (1 position)

Retention and Compliance with Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of  
2017,  
\$437.5 UGF

Address Increasing Costs of Law Enforcement Equipment  
and Supplies,  
\$800.0 UGF  
(FY2025 - FY2027)

Vehicles for Judicial Services, \$147.0 UGF

Add Three Non-Permanent State Troopers for Child Crime  
Investigations in Bethel,  
\$698.5 UGF

Ms. Halloran related that recruitment and retention was one of the commissioner's key objectives and the first request was to stand up a program manager to implement new strategies, policies, and procedures around recruitment. The request also supported travel for 75 new recruits that must travel to Anchorage for final training at their own cost, which was a barrier to recruitment. She indicated that the second request paid any tax related to troopers moving to rural Alaska that was a condition of employment. She reported that the amount of child crime in Western Alaska exceeded trooper capacity and expertise in child crime investigations was necessary.

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Representative Josephson asked why the final request was for non-permanent positions.

Commissioner Cockrell responded that there was not the capacity to put trooper investigators in Bethel. He viewed it as a pilot program. He elucidated that the troopers were assigned to investigate crimes against children. The cases were labor intensive and time consuming which took time away from policing efforts. If DPS had a significant increase in trooper recruitment, he would put troopers in the positions.

Representative Galvin had a question related to hiring. She asked what the vacancy rate was for troopers and what was considered fully staffed. Commissioner Cockrell responded that the target goal was over 400 Alaska State Troopers (AST) and 100 wildlife troopers. The department was working towards a goal. The department was down by about 60 positions in total for all types of troopers.

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Ms. Halloran continued to slide 10 titled "Alaska State Troopers Division - Significant Budget Changes Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons:"

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Outreach and Education,  
\$250.0 UGF

Fully Fund Existing Non-Permanent Investigators for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Investigations, \$450.0 UGF [4 Positions]

Commissioner Cockrell remarked that there were currently four investigators who were investigating six cases and worked on cases all over the state.

Co-Chair Johnson asked if the commissioner was aware of a bill establishing a council to address the issue. [HB 234/SB 151 (Missing/Murdered Indigenous People; Report, Chapter 53 SLA 24, 09/03/2024) The Senate version was adopted.] She also noted a human trafficking bill [HB 259 (Council On Human And Sex Trafficking)] and if both bills would be valuable to the department. Ms. Halloran was not familiar with the legislation.

Commissioner Cockrell interjected that the department had a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons working group. He was aware of the bill setting up a council. He shared it was his personal priority and that he ultimately added 4 investigators after initially underestimating the problem.

Representative Cronk thanked the commissioner on his work on the area.

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Representative Hannan thought that the cost for 4 investigators was too low. She wondered why. Ms. Halloran answered that the \$450 thousand would fund 2 positions and equipment, including vehicles. She reported that there was a \$250 thousand appropriation from the prior year, which will fund the positions fully including equipment. Representative Hannan wondered why the Outreach and Education for \$250 thousand was a separate item. Ms. Halloran responded that the items were in separate divisions.

Ms. Halloran continued on slide 11 titled "Alaska State Troopers Division - Significant Budget Changes Aircraft Section:"

Add Two Full Time Aircraft Pilot 1 in Fairbanks and Nome, \$408.3 UGF

Add One Full Time Maintenance Inspector in Fairbanks, \$148.3 UGF

Add One Criminal Justice Planner for Drone Operations, \$154.1 UGF

Ms. Halloran explained that the funding for two new pilots in Nome and Fairbanks would provide for significant coverage and mission delivery without interruption. The inspector would oversee maintenance contracts for the fleet in Fairbanks. The department was pleased with its drone program that included 29 drones with 19 more on order.

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Ms. Halloran moved to slide 12 titled "Alaska State Troopers Division:"

172 Drug and Alcohol Arrests in 2023:

- 83 Kilograms of Illicit Fentanyl Seized in 2023
- 41.5 million potentially fatal doses
- 79 Kilograms of Methamphetamines

Seized in 2023:

- 29 AST Drug/Alcohol Investigators
- 11 Active K9s
- Continued partnership with local, State, and federal law enforcement through High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Initiative (HIDTA)

Commissioner Cockrell relayed that Alaska had a drug problem and most of the seized drugs were meth, fentanyl, and cocaine. The department seized 41.5 million potentially fatal doses of fentanyl. The department had 11 canine's that included a dog that could sniff out electronics.

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Representative Tomaszewski asked if the department had the tools to "get these people [illegal drug sellers] off the street for good." Commissioner Cockrell voiced that the legal tools were present, but it was a matter of going through the process in the justice system. Representative Tomaszewski asked what happened when an individual had a large amount of drugs. Commissioner Cockrell responded that it depended on the volume of drugs. Cases with large volumes were referred to the federal court system where penalties were harsher than the state court system.

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Co-Chair Edgmon relayed from personal experience when the commissioner had travelled to Dillingham for a community visit and described a meeting with the parents of a daughter who had just graduated high school and died due to a drug incident. He found the visit illuminating and asked the commissioner to speak about the trip. Commissioner Cockrell responded that the meeting with the family was very personal to him. He shared that he lost his son to a drug overdose at age 26. He related his experiences from the trip to Dillingham regarding public safety and drug issues facing the area.

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Commissioner Cockrell Commissioner Cockrell continued that he attended a town hall meeting where he experienced many difficult conversations. The trip resulted in the addition of a drug investigator being placed in Dillingham and other measures to increase drug enforcement. He relayed more experiences and conclusions from the trip. He emphasized the concern the Alaska State Troopers had for the people of rural Alaska.

Co-Chair Edgmon asked the commissioner to discuss the AK-TIPS app. Commissioner Cockrell replied that it was an app that allowed citizens to send tips directly to state troopers. The department was raising awareness about the app and advocating for its use. He remarked that it was fully anonymous. He described a multi-state drug seizure that began in Dillingham. Co-Chair Edgmon liked that the app gave students the ability to anonymously report information. Commissioner Cockrell cautioned that the app was not for use as a 911 emergency call.

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Representative Cronk asked if Alaska Tips had a Facebook page. He thought it would be helpful. Commissioner Cockrell answered that the department could set one up.

Representative Coulombe asked about the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Initiative (HIDTA) and wondered how the troopers interacted with the airport police to intercept drugs, since many drug interceptions happened at the Anchorage Airport. Commissioner Cockrell responded that federal funding allowed DPS to coordinate with all law enforcement agencies, municipal, state, and federal. He could not divulge details but acknowledged that drug interception in the state was a "team effort."

Co-Chair Johnson noted she would turn the gavel over to Co-Chair Edgmon

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Ms. Halloran discussed slide 13 titled "Village Public Safety Officer Division." She reported that the budget request totaled \$24.3 million that included a \$3.4 million increase or 16.4 percent.

Ms. Halloran continued to slide 14 titled "Village Public Safety Officer Division - Significant Budget Change:"

Salary Increase for Village Public Safety Officers  
and Add Ten Village Public Safety Officers,  
\$3,499.8 UGF.

Commissioner Cockrell interjected that the VPSO program had continued to grow at a sustainable pace and positions were filling. He remarked that the program progressed quickly over the prior few years. The program was restructured and a VPSO division was created with a new director, James Hoelscher, that will mostly interface with the AST and Wildlife Troopers divisions directors. He described Director Hoelscher's background and related that he offered a huge amount of credibility and knowledge. The VPSOs were located in 54 communities and DPS had a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with 134 other communities or tribes.

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Representative Cronk appreciated the department's work on the VPSO program. The VPSO officers were well received in the communities in the large district he represented.

Co-Chair Edgmon thought that the current improvements in the VPSO program were transformational. He shared some history regarding the program and listed people that were instrumental in the program's successes. He never imagined that the program would make such significant progress and he thanked the department.

Representative Josephson asked about the MOU's with 134 local governments and tribes. He applauded the progress. He wondered what one could expect in the 134 communities regarding their public safety presence. Commissioner Cockrell replied that many of the villages either had tribal police or VPSOs. He reported that currently 62 VPSOs were serving in rural Alaska and the VPSO training took place in Bethel.

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Representative Josephson asked what the terms of the MOU were. Commissioner Cockrell would provide a copy of a few agreements for the exact terms. He furthered that each tribe or village decided the terms with its tribal

government. Representative Josephson deduced that the agreements reflected the tribes or villages desire for VPSOs. Commissioner Cockrell replied in the affirmative.

Representative Galvin asked if there were enough candidates applying for VPSO positions and capacity for training if the department wanted to add more officers. Commissioner Cockrell responded that the department wanted to ensure that there was the capacity. He explained that historically the program received significant funding, but it was not spent due to disorganization in the program and department. He cited the working group that was established in statute [SB 81 (Village Public Safety Officers, Grants, Chapter 16 SLA 22, 06/29/2022)] and commented that DPS was following their recommendations. Things like struggling with adequate housing and other issues prevented the program from presently, enlisting more than 10 to 12 candidates at a time. Representative Galvin understood the need for incremental growth in order for the program to be a success.

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Representative Cronk commented on DPS's willingness to partner with tribal entities that was necessary to fill positions. Commissioner Cockrell shared that all rural communities want public safety and DPS was attempting to fill the need.

Ms. Halloran turned to slide 15 titled "Alaska Police Standards Council." She indicated that the council had a request for an Administrative Investigator for \$160.thousand DGF with a budget increase of roughly \$2 hundred DGF. She explained that the position was much needed with a growing case load and its demanding role of certifying over 2,800 officers in the state.

Ms. Halloran moved to slide 16 titled "Victim Services Division" and reported that the division was new and included the CDVSA, the VCCB, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault training unit , Victim navigator program, and Missing persons clearinghouse. The new division combined the functions under one division and believed it would offer victims improved support. The majority of the division's funding was from the CDVSA funding that included 50 percent federal funds.

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Ms. Halloran continued to slide 17 titled "Victim Services Division - Significant Budget Change:"

Add Two Paralegal 2,  
\$239.3 UGF

Transfer in Positions from Alaska State Troopers,  
\$1,328.4 UGF and \$316.3 I/A

Add Administrative Assistant 1, \$109.3 UGF

Decrease Funding Source to Align with Balance in  
Restorative Justice Fund,  
\$(2,299.3) PFD Crim (Other)

Ms. Halloran reminded the committee that the decrement in the Restorative Justice Fund was due to a lowered permanent fund dividend, which impacted the fund.

Ms. Halloran advanced to slide 18 titled "Statewide Support" Division which comprised the Statewide Services Division, the Statewide Services Division, Training Academy, Commissioners Office, and the Administrative Services Division and served the entire department and state. The budget request was \$55.5 million that represented a \$2 million increase or 2.2 percent.

Ms. Halloran continued on slide 19 titled "Statewide Support - Significant Budget Changes:"

Fully Fund Two Department of Law Criminal Attorneys,  
\$418.2 UGF

Address Rising Instructor Overtime and Services  
Costs, \$190.0 UGF

Crime Data Portal for Public Interface on Public  
Safety Website,  
\$67.0 UGF One Time Increment

Ms. Halloran relayed that DPS could no longer help fund the positions via a reimbursable services agreement (RSA) with the Department of Law (DOL) and offered that there was never a prior budget request associated with the attorneys that were housed in the commissioner's office. The second

request was for Training Academy instructors. She concluded the presentation.

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Representative Hannan requested more information about the two department of law criminal attorneys within DPS.

Commissioner Cockrell replied that DPS always had a staff attorney for sound legal advice on complicated issues that occurred. The other attorney was focused on sex offender registration, firearms, and PIRs (Public Information Requests) via the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) that averaged about 10,000 per year. The attorney's saved the state funding versus seeking contracted legal advice.

Co-Chair Edgmon referred to slide 16 and 17 and asked about UGF. Ms. Halloran replied that the UGF was from the CDVSA via Department of Justice (DOJ) federal grants that were only for reimbursement. She detailed that it was a burden for grantees to do the paperwork and forms required to get the reimbursement, therefore a small amount of UGF attached to the grants helps the shelters. She remarked that there was no UGF funding for the VCCB.

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Representative Josephson shared that he was approached by the shelter system requesting increased funding. He wondered where the state stood on meeting their needs. Ms. Halloran highlighted that there was a reduction in the federal Victims of Crime Act funding that decreased GF for CDVSA and without the one-time funding that was added in the prior two fiscal years, she anticipated the shelters would experience increased need in the current fiscal year.

Representative Coulombe asked about DPS's Statewide Support Division. She wondered what the intersection was between DPS and the Department of Administration (DOA) in procurement, Information Technology (IT), and Human Resources (HR).

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LISA PURINTON, DIRECTOR, STATEWIDE SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, replied that it was a work in progress. She expounded that DOA provided IT support and DPS had its own

network and technical support staff. Statewide systems would remain with DOA like Outlook, etc.

Representative Cronk cited the fish dumping incident and asked what type of penalties violators received. Commissioner Cockrell answered that the violator could receive a maximum fine of \$3 thousand or a be charged with a Class A misdemeanor with a year in jail or \$10 thousand fine. The department also had the authority to seize vessels.

HB 268 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

HB 270 was HEARD and HELD in committee for further consideration.

Co-Chair Johnson reviewed the agenda for the following day's meeting.

#

ADJOURNMENT

[3:21:02 PM](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.