

# Washington State Judicial Branch 2023-25 Biennial Budget Biennial Funding for State v. Blake

**Agency:** Office of Civil Legal Aid

**Decision Package Code/Title:** AG – Biennial Funding for State v. Blake

**Agency Recommendation Summary Text:**

The Office of Civil Legal Aid requests \$4.8 million in 2023-25 and ongoing General Fund-State support to continue providing legal assistance to individuals eligible for civil relief as a result of the Washington Supreme Court's decision in State v. Blake. To provide legal information, on-line forms, and direct civil legal assistance to individuals eligible for relief under the State v. Blake decision over the course of an entire biennium, the judicial branch is requesting ongoing financial support from the General Fund as a deposit to the Judicial Stabilization Trust Account. (General Fund-State)

**Fiscal Summary:**

	FY 2024	FY 2025	Biennial	FY 2026	FY 2027	Biennial
<b>Staffing</b>						
FTEs	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Operating Expenditures</b>						
Fund 001-1	\$2,340,000	\$2,434,000	<b>\$4,774,000</b>	\$2,531,000	\$2,632,000	<b>\$5,163,000</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>						
	<b>\$2,340,000</b>	<b>\$2,434,000</b>	<b>\$4,774,000</b>	<b>\$2,531,000</b>	<b>\$2,632,000</b>	<b>\$5,163,000</b>

**Package Description:**

This request would support stable and continuous biennial funding to provide legal information, on-line forms, and direct civil legal assistance to individuals eligible for relief under the State v. Blake decision by including a budget proviso to deposit \$4.8 million per year from the General Fund-State to the Judicial Stabilization Trust Account.

Proposed proviso language:

**For the Office of Civil Legal Aid**

\$2,340,000 of the general fund-state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$2,434,000 of the general fund state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for deposit into the judicial stabilization trust account and are provided solely for continuing and expanding automated plain language forms, outreach, education, technical assistance, and legal assistance to help resolve civil legal matters relating to legal financial obligations and vacating sentences of defendants whose convictions or sentences are affected by the State v. Blake decision.

The funding will support work described in Office of Civil Legal Aid's 2023-25 request AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Fully describe and quantify expected impacts on state residents and specific populations served:**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Explain what alternatives were explored by the agency and why they were rejected as solutions:**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**What are the consequences of not funding this request?**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Is this an expansion or alteration of a current program or service?**

No. This work was funded in the 2021-23 biennium.

**Decision Package expenditure, FTE and revenue assumptions:**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**How does the package relate to the Judicial Branch principal policy objectives?**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Are there impacts to other governmental entities?**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Stakeholder response:**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Are there legal or administrative mandates that require this package to be funded?**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Does current law need to be changed to successfully implement this package?**

No.

**Are there impacts to state facilities?**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Are there other supporting materials that strengthen the case for this request?**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

**Are there information technology impacts?**

See decision package AB Civil Relief Under *State v. Blake*.

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