

Washington State Judicial Branch
2024 Supplemental Budget
Fund UGA Court-Appointed Attorney and Visitor Requirements Proviso

Agency: Administrative Office of the Courts

Decision Package Code/Title: 3M – Fund UGA Proviso

Agency Recommendation Summary Text:

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) requests a technical correction to fund the proviso directing \$6 million for distribution to local courts for costs associated with the court-appointed attorney and visitor requirements set forth in the Uniform Guardianship Act, Chapter 11.130 RCW. The funding was removed at carry-forward level, not added back, and then provisoed by the Legislature in the final budget. This results in a \$6 million reduction to the base, non-provisoed General Fund-State budget. (General Fund – State)

Fiscal Summary:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	Biennial	FY 2026	FY 2027	Biennial
Staffing						
FTEs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001-1	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$6,000,000
Total Expenditures						
	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$6,000,000

Package Description:

Funding for the local court costs associated with the court-appointed attorney and visitor requirements under the Uniform Guardianship Act (UGA), Chapter 11.130 RCW was funded and provisoed in the 2021-23 biennial budget and provisoed again in the 2023-25 biennial budget. However, the \$6 million base funding for the program was removed at carryforward level as a one-time cost and never added back in the AOC's final budget. This request would correct that technical error.

Fully describe and quantify expected impacts on state residents.

This is a technical correction. If it is not corrected, the AOC's base, non-provisoed General Fund-State (GF-S) budget would be reduced and could not deliver all of its programs as planned.

Explain what alternatives were explored by the agency and why this was the best option chosen.

No funding alternatives were explored. This request would make a technical correction and fund the program as the Legislature directed in the proviso.

What are the consequences of not funding this request?

Without this funding, the underlying AOC base, non-provisoed GF-S is \$6 million short and programs agency-wide will be impacted by reductions.

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

No.

Decision Package expenditure, FTE and revenue assumptions:

Below is a summary of the steps leading to this technical issue.

RecSum Code	Budget	Title	FY 1	FY 2	Total
UGAA	21-23 Biennial	Uniform Guardianship Act	\$8,000,000	\$0	\$8,000,000
UGAA	2022 Supp	Uniform Guardianship Act	(\$5,000,000)	\$3,000,000	(\$2,000,000)
UGAA	2025 CFL Adj	Uniform Guardianship Act	(\$3,000,000)	(\$3,000,000)	(\$6,000,000)
Total at 2023-25 AOC CFL			\$0	\$0	\$0
None	23-25 Biennial	None	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total at 2023-25 AOC Biennial Budget			\$0	\$0	\$0
N/A	23-25 Biennial	Chapter 475, Laws of 2023, Section 114 (4) - Proviso	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$6,000,000

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

The fair and effective administration of justice includes maintaining the resources and capacity of the AOC to deliver all of its programs as planned.

Are there impacts to other governmental entities?

No.

Stakeholder response:

None

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

No

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

No

Are there impacts to state facilities?

No.

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

Not applicable.

Are there information technology impacts?

No

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