



Dollars in Thousands

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Office of Public Defense
2025Second Supplemental Budget Session
OPD2025 - OPD 2025 Supplemental

	FY2 FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
CB T0PL Current Biennium Base	51.9	137,683	16,203	153,886
2023-25 Current Biennium Total	51.9	137,683	16,203	153,886
Total Carry Forward Level	51.9	137,683	16,203	153,886
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%
Maintenance – Other Changes				
ML S1 Appellate Backlog Response	0.3	2,152	0	2,152
ML S2 Defense Experts & Litigation Costs	0.0	1,390	0	1,390
ML S3 WaTech Funding Reversion	0.0	(485)	0	(485)
Maintenance – Other Total	0.3	3,057	0	3,057
Total Maintenance Level	52.2	140,740	16,203	156,943
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.6%	2.2%	.0%	2.0%
	0.0	0	0	0
Subtotal - Policy Level Changes	0.0	0	0	0
2023-25 Total Policy Level	52.2	140,740	16,203	156,943
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.6%	2.2%	.0%	2.0%

ML S1 Appellate Backlog Response

The Office of Public Defense (OPD) requests funding to cover an emergent backlog of case assignments and increased workload in the Appellate Program. A software error concealed the magnitude of growing workload until June 2024. To address the workload and avoid a greater backlog and court delays, OPD is adding 11 FTE contract attorneys for Fiscal Year 2025. OPD requests .3 FTE attorney trainer to develop and implement training for newly recruited and less-experienced appellate contractors. OPD further requests funding to cover an appellate workload study as recommended by the Washington State Bar Association.

ML S2 Defense Experts & Litigation Costs

The Office of Public Defense (OPD) requests funding to cover increased costs for defense experts in dependency and termination of parental rights cases, and for litigation costs including trial transcripts and clerk's papers in appellate cases.

ML S3 WaTech Funding Reversion

The Office of Public Defense (OPD) is reverting back to the state funding that was previously appropriated for OPD participation in WaTech's Small Agency IT Support program. Prior to spending the 2023-2025 appropriation, OPD, in consultation with WaTech, determined that this particular WaTech program is not a good fit for OPD's business needs.

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