

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

Agency: Office of Public Defense

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

Agency Recommendation Summary Text:

The Office of Public Defense requests \$5.973 million per year in General Fund-State support to fund statewide defense services in response to the *State v. Blake* decision. To best assist counties with public defense costs in representing people eligible for *Blake* relief over the course of an entire biennium, the judicial branch is requesting 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
Staffing						
FTEs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001-1	\$5,973,000	\$5,973,000	\$11,946,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Expenditures						
	\$5,973,000	\$5,973,000	\$11,946,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Package Description:

This request provides stable biennial funding to meet the public defense needs of people eligible for *Blake* relief by including a budget proviso to deposit \$5.973 million per year from the General Fund-State to the Judicial Stabilization Trust Account.

Proposed proviso language:

For the Office of Public Defense

\$5,973,000 of the general fund-state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and \$5,973,000 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 to administer the office of public defense’s *Blake* defense response to meet the public defense needs of people eligible for relief under *State v. Blake*, 197 Wn.2d.170 (2021).

The funding will support work described in Office of Public Defense’s 2023-25 request AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

What are the consequences of not funding this request?

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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

Administrative Office of the Courts
Policy Level – AU – Biennial Funding for State v. Blake

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

Decision Package expenditure, FTE and revenue assumptions:

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

Are there impacts to other governmental entities?

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

Stakeholder response:

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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

No.

Are there impacts to state facilities?

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

Are there information technology impacts?

See decision package AE *State v. Blake* Defense Response.

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