

Introduced by

Representatives Roers Jones, Lefor, Mock, O'Brien, Pyle

Senators Meyer, Patten, J. Roers, K. Roers

1 A BILL for an Act to provide an appropriation to the attorney general for a back the blue grant  
2 program; and to provide for a report.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - ATTORNEY GENERAL - BACK THE BLUE GRANT**  
5 **PROGRAM - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**

6 There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise  
7 appropriated, the sum of \$5,000,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the  
8 attorney general for the purpose of providing back the blue grants to assist local law  
9 enforcement agencies with workforce recruitment and retention, for the biennium beginning  
10 July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. Of the funding appropriated in this section, \$1,250,000  
11 is available exclusively to local law enforcement agencies employing ten or fewer employees  
12 working in a law enforcement capacity. This funding is considered a one-time funding item.

13 1. To be eligible for a grant under this section, a law enforcement agency must have  
14 incurred workforce recruitment and retention-related expenditures. Eligible  
15 expenditures include:

16 a. Bonuses paid to new and current law enforcement officers;  
17 b. Tuition and fee payments made on behalf of law enforcement trainees; and  
18 c. Costs to upgrade law enforcement equipment.

19 2. Law enforcement agencies seeking reimbursement for workforce recruitment and  
20 retention-related expenditures must submit a report of actual expenditures incurred to  
21 the attorney general with the grant application.

22 3. The attorney general:

23 a. Shall reimburse each eligible applicant fifty percent of allowable expenditures;

Sixty-eighth  
Legislative Assembly

- 1           b.    May not award funding appropriated in this section to state or federal law
- 2                    enforcement entities; and
- 3           c.    Shall report to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly regarding the number of grants
- 4                    provided pursuant to this section.