

**LAW ENFORCEMENT WEAPONS AMENDMENTS**

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: David G. Buxton**

House Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill creates a program to fund the purchase of technology and equipment for law enforcement agencies to assist in investigating officer-involved critical incidents.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ creates a program within the Utah Highway Patrol to fund purchases of technology and equipment to assist law enforcement agencies in investigating officer-involved critical incidents when a firearm is involved;
- ▶ requires that a law enforcement agency that applies for funds must provide matching funds;
- ▶ requires the department to report on the program to the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee; and
- ▶ appropriates \$2,000,000 to the department.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2022:

- ▶ to the Department of Public Safety, Utah Highway Patrol, Special Projects, as a one-time appropriation:
  - from the General Fund, One-time, \$2,000,000.

**Other Special Clauses:**

None



28 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

29 ENACTS:

30 **53-1-121**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



32 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

33 Section 1. Section **53-1-121** is enacted to read:

34 **53-1-121. Technology and equipment for officer-involved critical incident**  
35 **investigation -- Rulemaking -- Legislative findings -- Revenue fund created.**

36 (1) The department shall assist the law enforcement agencies of the state and the state's  
37 political subdivisions to obtain technology and equipment to assist in the investigation of  
38 officer-involved critical incidents in which a firearm is used.

39 (2) To be eligible, the technology or equipment shall be:

40 (a) capable of recording actual shots fired, including the date and time, from a specific  
41 weapon;

42 (b) able to distinguish between actual shots fired and other, unrelated but  
43 contemporaneous, events; and

44 (c) tamper-proof and unable to be removed or manipulated by the officer.

45 (3) The department shall create a program to assist law enforcement agencies through  
46 monetary grants to:

47 (a) purchase technology and equipment to assist in the investigation of officer-involved  
48 critical incidents involving a firearm; and

49 (b) train law enforcement officers in the proper use and handling of any technology and  
50 equipment purchased in accordance with this section.

51 (4) (a) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,  
52 the commissioner shall make rules establishing a program with criteria and procedures for  
53 granting matching funds under this section to law enforcement agencies to purchase technology  
54 or equipment meeting the criteria in Subsection (2).

55 (b) The rules shall require that funding provided to purchase technology or equipment  
56 under this section shall be matched by the requesting law enforcement agency.

57 (5) The Legislature finds that the money is for a general and statewide public purpose.

58 (6) Expenses accrued by the department in carrying out this section shall be provided

59 from this appropriation, but may not exceed \$40,000 annually.

60 (7) The Legislature shall appropriate funds to the department to use for matching grants  
61 to local law enforcement agencies to carry out the purpose of this program.

62 (8) The department shall report annually to the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice  
63 Appropriations Subcommittee on the program. The report shall contain:

64 (a) the total amount of appropriations received by the program;

65 (b) amounts granted from the program to local law enforcement agencies, including an  
66 accounting of technology purchased by the local law enforcement agency;

67 (c) an accounting of any administrative expenses for the program paid out of the funds;

68 (d) requests for funding that were not granted and the reason for denial; and

69 (e) the total amount of remaining funds.

70 **Section 2. Appropriation.**

71 The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1,  
72 2021, and ending June 30, 2022. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for  
73 fiscal year 2022. Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures  
74 Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts  
75 indicated for the use and support of the government of the state of Utah.

76 ITEM 1

77 To Department of Public Safety -- Utah Highway Patrol -- Special Projects

78 From General Fund, One-time \$2,000,000

79 Schedule of Programs:

80 Utah Highway Patrol -- Special Projects \$2,000,000