

1 S.249

2 Introduced by Senator Ayer

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Law enforcement; special investigative units; funding

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to increase the
7 cap on grants for special investigative units from 50 percent to 75 percent of
8 the annual salary and employee benefit costs of the unit.

9 An act relating to special investigative unit funding

10 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

11 Sec. 1. 24 V.S.A. § 1940(c) is amended to read:

12 (c) ~~A~~ The Special Investigative Unit Grants Board is created, which shall
13 comprise the Attorney General, the Secretary of Administration, the Executive
14 Director of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, the Commissioner of Public Safety,
15 the Commissioner for Children and Families, a representative of the Vermont
16 Sheriffs' Association, a representative of the Vermont Association of Chiefs of
17 Police, the Executive Director of the Center for Crime Victim Services, and the
18 Executive Director of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. Special
19 investigative units organized and operating under this section may apply to the
20 Board for a grant or grants covering the costs of salaries and employee benefits

1 to be expended during a given year for the performance of unit duties as well
2 as unit operating costs for rent, utilities, equipment, training, and supplies.
3 Grants under this section shall be approved by a majority of the entire Board
4 and shall not exceed ~~50~~ 75 percent of the yearly salary and employee benefit
5 costs of the unit. Preference shall be given to grant applications ~~which~~ that
6 include the participation of the Department of Public Safety, the Department
7 for Children and Families, sheriffs' departments, community victims'
8 advocacy organizations, and municipalities within the region. Preference shall
9 also be given to grant applications ~~which~~ that promote policies and practices
10 that are consistent across the State, including policies and practices concerning
11 the referral of complaints, the investigation of cases, and the supervision and
12 management of special investigative units. However, a sheriff's department in
13 a county with a population of fewer than 8,000 residents shall upon application
14 receive a grant of up to ~~\$20,000.00~~ \$30,000.00 for ~~50~~ 75 percent of the yearly
15 salary and employee benefits costs of a part-time special investigative unit
16 investigator, which shall be paid to the department as time is billed on a per
17 hour rate as agreed by contract up to the maximum amount of the grant.

18 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.