

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 11/13/2023

LRB Number	23-2634/1	Introduction Number	SB-0621	Estimate Type	Original
Description public safety peer counseling and privilege for peer support and critical incident stress management services communications and granting rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to establish and implement a program to allow law enforcement agencies, tribal law enforcement agencies, fire protection or emergency medical service agency, or any other agency that employs law enforcement officers, tribal law enforcement officers, fire fighters, dispatchers, emergency medical responders, emergency medical services practitioners, public safety personnel, or ambulance service provider personnel to establish peer support and critical incident stress management (CISM) service teams.

Under the provisions of the bill, DOJ would be required to organize a training program for peer support or CISM team members to provide peer support or CISM services. The bill requires the Law Enforcement Standards Board to coordinate with the Department of Health Services, the state fire marshal, and any other relevant agency or entity it determines appropriate to advise the Law Enforcement Standards Board in establishing the curriculum.

The Department of Health Services would be able to support the provisions of this bill with current staff and resources. This bill does not require agencies to create peer support or CISM services teams and any increased costs would be the result of an agency voluntarily choosing to implement one of these teams.

The bill would require agencies establishing peer support teams or CISM services teams to develop written guidelines for the teams and members. Peer support and CISM service team leaders must complete an approved training and be designated by the agency. The bill establishes some liability exemptions for members of these teams and also establishes protections for members of the peer support and CISM services teams.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications