Legislative Analysis



SECONDARY ROAD PATROL PROGRAM: FY 2016-17 MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

House Concurrent Resolution 25

Sponsor: Rep. Miller

Committee: Appropriations

Complete to 9-8-16

Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

SUMMARY OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 25 AS INTRODUCED 9-7-16

House Concurrent Resolution 25 would waive the maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement mandated for county sheriffs' departments as a condition of receiving funding under the Secondary Road Patrol (SRP) Program for FY 2016-17, in addition to waiving the MOE requirement on cities and villages to be eligible for road patrol services by county sheriff's departments.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Established by 1978 PA 416, the Secondary Road Patrol Program provides grant assistance to county sheriffs' departments with the express purpose of patrolling county and local roads outside the boundaries of cities and villages. Sheriff deputies funded with SRP funds are specifically tasked with traffic control, criminal law enforcement, accident investigation, and emergency assistance while patrolling these secondary roads. Sheriff deputies may provide patrol services within cities and villages upon the approval of a resolution of the city or village's governing board.

The SRP Program is supported by a distribution from the Justice System Fund (MCL 600.181) to the Secondary Road Patrol and Training Fund (MCL 257.629e) equal to \$10 for each civil traffic violation. SRP grant funds are distributed to counties based on each county's share of transportation (roads) funding allocated in 1978.

To be eligible to receive SRP grants, each county must satisfy a maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement established as the number of FTE county-funded road patrol deputies employed on October 1, 1978. Statewide, the MOE requirement is 1,043 FTE county-funded road patrol deputies and, during FY 2014-15, the actual number of FTE county-funded road patrol deputies totaled 2,251, of which 133 were funded through SRP. While the total number of statewide FTEs can exceed the statewide MOE requirement, some counties could fall below their individual MOE requirements.

A county may reduce the level of FTE county-funded road patrol deputies to a level below its MOE requirement and not be disqualified for SRP grants if it can show that it reduced its general services because of an economic hardship.

House Fiscal Agency HCR 25 as introduced Page 1 of 2

FISCAL IMPACT:

HCR 25 would allow counties to receive and expend Secondary Road Patrol (SRP) grant funds in FY 2016-17 without meeting the maintenance of effort requirement specified in statute. Based on grant applications received to-date and current-year grant activities, a preliminary estimate from the Department of State Police (MSP) indicates that three counties (Branch, Shiawassee, and Wayne) could potentially fail to meet the MOE requirement and would thus be ineligible for SRP assistance (approximately \$1.5 million in distributions¹). The resolution would also waive the MOE requirement to allow cities and villages to receive road patrol services from the county sheriff's departments.

Fiscal Analyst: Kent Dell

House Fiscal Agency HCR 25 as introduced Page 2 of 2

[■] This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

¹ According to the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning FY 2014-15 report on the Secondary Road Patrol Program, these three counties received a combined distribution of \$1,494,603 from the total state allocation of \$9.3 million; http://www.michigan.gov/documents/msp/SRP_2015_07_web_523883_7.pdf: accessed September 7, 2016.