



Senate Fiscal Agency
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536



Telephone: (517) 373-5383
Fax: (517) 373-1986

House Bill 5094 (Substitute H-2 as passed by the House)
Sponsor: Representative Mary Whiteford
House Committee: Appropriations
Senate Committee: Appropriations

Date Completed: 9-29-21

CONTENT

The bill would amend Public Act 196 of 1989, which created the Crime Victim's Rights Fund, to delay the date that triggers a reduction in spending authorization from the Fund for a statewide trauma system.

The Act establishes the Crime Victim's Rights Fund and authorizes the uses of Fund money. Money from the Fund may be used for the following three purposes: funding for crime victim services, any excess in the fund above that needed for crime victim services may be used for crime victim compensation, and any additional excess revenue, up to \$3.5 million with a 50% cap (beginning October 1, 2021) above the amount used for crime victim compensation may be used for the establishment and maintenance of a statewide trauma system. Public Act 280 of 2010 directed that up to \$3.5 million in excess Fund revenue be used to establish and maintain a statewide trauma system, including staff support associated with trauma and related emergency medical services program activities. Various amendatory acts have delayed the implementation of the 50% cap placed on the \$3.5 million allocation from the original October 1, 2014, to October 1, 2018, and then to October 1, 2021.

MCL 780.904

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would allow continuation of funding of \$3.5 million appropriated for the statewide trauma system in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) budget in fiscal year (FY) 2021-22. The balance in the Crime Victim's Rights Fund at the end of FY 2019-20 was \$26.9 million, and the estimated balance anticipated by the DHHS at the end of FY 2020-21 is \$26.9 million, which includes current fiscal year estimated expenditures of \$22.2 million and estimated revenue of \$22.2 million. The SIGMA accounting system shows \$14.2 million of Fund money spent as of September 28, 2021, for FY 2020-21 in the DHHS budget. Revenue for the Fund comes from courts fines, fees, and assessments levied on individuals convicted of felonies and misdemeanors.

Based on the Fund balance and recent revenue and expenditures in the Fund, there appears to be a sufficient balance in the Fund to continue the use of up to \$3.5 million for the statewide trauma system for FY 2021-22; accordingly, the bill would not result in the need for any programmatic reductions.

Fiscal Analyst: John P. Maxwell

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.