JBC Staff Fiscal Analysis Senate Appropriations Committee

Concerning misconduct by crime laboratory employees, and, in connection therewith, requiring a crime laboratory employee to report misconduct, requiring notifying criminal defendants and victims of misconduct, creating a process for a person to seek post-conviction relief based on a claim of misconduct by a crime laboratory employee, and making an appropriation.

Prime Sponsors:

Representatives Soper; Zokaie

Senators Weissman; Frizell

Date Prepared:

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Fiscal Impacts

Appropriation Already Added to Bill, No Amendment in Packet

General Fund Impact

Fiscal Note Status

The most recent Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note (attached) reflects the fiscal impact of the bill as of 04/25/25.

No Change: Attached LCS Fiscal Note accurately reflects the fiscal impact of the bill. The appropriation identified in the Revised Fiscal Note for the Office of State Public Defender is included in the Long Bill.

Amendments in This Packet

None.

Current Appropriations Clause in Bill

The bill includes an appropriation clause that appropriates \$140,443 General Fund to the Judicial Department for FY 2025-26 and reflects 1.1 FTE.

Points to Consider

General Fund Impact

The Joint Budget Committee has proposed a budget package for FY 2025-26 based on the March 2025 Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) revenue forecast. The budget package includes \$18.2 million in set-asides for legislation outside of the package (see table below). The budget package accounts for the 15.0 percent reserve associated with the placeholders.

General Fund Appropriation Placeholders for Other 2025 Legislation	
Description	FY 2025-26 Appropriation
Juvenile diversion, deflection, or detention	\$10,000,000
General Assembly legislative priorities	6,521,739
Voter approved initiatives	1,700,000
Total	\$18,221,739

This bill requires a General Fund appropriation of \$140,443 for FY 2025-26, reducing the \$18.2 million set aside by the same amount.