

**SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE
PROVISO CHANGES FOR CONSIDERATION FOR FY 2026-27**

SECTION 57 - B040 - JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

- 57.13 DELETE** (JUD: Magistrates Training) Directs the Judicial Department to provide annual domestic violence training to magistrates.
WMC: DELETE proviso.
HOU: ADOPT deletion.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT deletion.

~~57.13. (JUD: Magistrates' Training) From the funds appropriated to the Judicial Department, the department shall provide magistrates annual continuing education on domestic violence, which may include, but is not limited to:~~

- ~~(1) the nature, extent, and causes of domestic and family violence;~~
- ~~(2) issues of domestic and family violence concerning children;~~
- ~~(3) prevention of the use of violence by children;~~
- ~~(4) sensitivity to gender bias and cultural, racial, and sexual issues;~~
- ~~(5) the lethality of domestic and family violence;~~
- ~~(6) legal issues relating to domestic violence and child custody;~~
- ~~(7) procedures, penalties, programs, and other issues relating to criminal domestic violence, including social and psychological issues relating to such violence, the vulnerability of victims and volatility of perpetrators, and the court's role in ensuring that the parties have appropriate and adequate representation; and~~
- ~~(8) procedures and other matters relating to issuing orders of protection from domestic violence.~~

- 57.20 DELETE** (JUD: Calhoun and Supreme Court Building Office Space Renovations) Directs that funds from Act 239 of 2022, Section 118.19(48) be redirected to renovate office space in the Calhoun Building and the Supreme Court Building.
WMC: DELETE proviso. Requested by the Judicial Department.
HOU: ADOPT deletion.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT deletion.

~~57.20. (JUD: Calhoun and Supreme Court Building Office Space Renovations) Funds appropriated in Act 239 of 2022, Section 118.19(48) to the Judicial Department for the Court of Appeals New Courtroom and Office Space shall be redirected to be used to renovate office space located in the Calhoun Building and Supreme Court Building.~~

- 57.23 DELETE** (JUD: Family Court Judges) **WMC:** ADD proviso to authorize the Judicial Department to pay family court judges 95% of the fixed salary for Associate Justices of the Supreme Court.
HOU: ADOPT new proviso.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: DELETE new proviso.

~~57.23. (Jud: Family Court Judges) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 14-1-200, the South Carolina Judicial Department is authorized to pay family court judges ninety five percent of the salary fixed for Associate Justices of the Supreme Court.~~

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SECTION 60 - E210 - PROSECUTION COORDINATION COMMISSION

60.3 **AMEND** (PCC: Judicial Circuits State Support) Directs that funds appropriated for Judicial Circuits State Support be apportioned quarterly to the circuits on a per capita basis.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: CONFORM TO FUNDING / AMEND proviso to update distributed amounts. Requested by the Prosecution Coordination Commission.

60.3. (PCC: Judicial Circuits State Support) The amount appropriated and authorized in this section for Judicial Circuits (16) State Support shall be apportioned among the circuits. The first ~~\$7,632,961~~ \$9,232,961 shall be distributed on a per capita basis based upon the current official census. The next ~~\$2,919,041~~ \$11,399,041 shall be distributed on a pro-rata basis in equal amounts. The remaining \$2,400,000 will be distributed based on the number of magistrate-level DUI and DUAC warrants statewide for the calendar year ending before the beginning of the current fiscal year that are subject to the prosecution authority of the circuit solicitors. Payment shall be made as soon after the beginning of each quarter as practical.

SECTION 61 - E230 - COMMISSION ON INDIGENT DEFENSE

61.14 **CONFORM TO FUNDING/ ADD** (INDEF: Public Defender Technology and Digital Storage)
WMC: ADD proviso to direct that the \$1,382,000 appropriated shall be distributed to the judicial circuits in quarterly installments, with \$720,000 allocated evenly at \$45,000 per circuit and the remaining \$662,000 distributed based on population.
HOU: ADOPT new proviso.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: CONFORM TO FUNDING / ADOPT new proviso.

61.14. (INDEF: Public Defender Technology and Digital Storage) The \$1,382,000 appropriated shall be apportioned among the circuits in quarterly disbursements. The first \$720,000 shall be distributed on a pro-rata basis at \$45,000 per circuit, and the remaining \$662,000 shall be distributed on a per capita basis.

SECTION 62 - D100 - STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

62.cmp **ADD** (SLED: Public Higher Education Campus Mapping Data Program) **SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** ADD new proviso to create the Campus Mapping Data Program. Directs SLED to contract with a vendor to provide campus mapping data for each public institution for higher learning and provides the requirements of the campus mapping program. Directs the institutions of higher learning to review all campus facilities and infrastructure to ensure accuracy in the campus mapping data, and to report any changes to SLED.

62.cmp. (SLED: Public Higher Education Campus Mapping Data Program) (A) From the funds appropriated to the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) to facilitate efficient emergency responses in public institutions of higher learning by public safety agencies in this State, the Campus Mapping Data Program is established as a statewide initiative within the SLED. The department shall contract with a vendor to provide campus mapping data for each public institution of higher learning in the State. The data must be provided to each public institution of higher learning, campus police department, local law enforcement agency, and public safety agency for use in response to emergencies. For purposes of this provision, emergencies include, but are not limited to, any event in which a law enforcement officer,

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firefighter, rescue squad, emergency medical service provider, public safety telecommunicator, or any other emergency management provider may respond.

(B) Campus mapping data must:

(1) be compatible with software platforms used by local, county, state, and federal public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the specific institution for which the data is provided without requiring such agencies to purchase additional software or requiring a fee to view or access the data;

(2) be compatible with security software platforms in use by the specific institution for which the data is provided without requiring the local law enforcement agencies or public institutions to purchase additional software or requiring a fee to view or access the data;

(3) be in a printable format and, if requested, be in a digital file format that may be integrated into interactive mobile platforms in use;

(4) be verified by the entity producing the data for accuracy by a walk-through of campus buildings and grounds;

(5) be oriented true north;

(6) include accurate floor plans overlaid on current, verified aerial imagery of the campus, which must be updated by the department as it considers necessary;

(7) contain site-specific labeling that matches the structure of campus buildings, including room labels, hallway names, and external door or stairwell numbers and locations of hazards, critical utility locations, key boxes, automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits;

(8) contain site-specific labeling that matches the campus grounds, including parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring properties;

(9) be overlaid with gridded x and y coordinates; and

(10) be updated and accessible within software platforms used by local, county, state, and federal public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the specific institution.

(C) To ensure that campus mapping data used by law enforcement and emergency response agencies remains accurate and current, each public institution of higher learning shall review all campus facilities and infrastructure, including athletic facilities and branch campuses, to identify material changes, renovations, additions, or updates and shall report such changes to the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and the mapping vendor under contract pursuant to this provision, provided that nothing herein prohibits more frequent coordination or updates as necessary. The minimum maintenance cost for each public institution of higher learning may not exceed fifteen percent of the initial cost of mapping for the public institution of higher learning.

(D) Campus mapping data is not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. For purposes of this provision, "campus mapping data" means information collected pursuant to this provision in an electronic or a digital format and provided to assist first responders in responding to emergencies at an institution.

SECTION 63 - K050 – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

- 63.8** **AMEND** (DPS: School Safety Program) Directs that funds appropriated for the School Safety Program must be used to hire certified law enforcement officers as school resource officers (SROs) in districts lacking adequate resources, with priority given to districts with the lowest taxpaying ability. Districts must apply in partnership with a local law enforcement agency, and funds will be directed to the agency or, in Tier IV counties only, to private companies for hiring certified Class I officers. Unused funds may be carried forward for salaries, equipment, and training. Districts must report quarterly SRO staffing. Any remaining funds must be transferred to the Department of Public Safety by August 15.

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WMC: AMEND proviso to allow eligibility for public or charter schools serving kindergarten through eighth grade with enrollment exceeding 1,500 students to be eligible for a state-funded School Resource Officer.

HOU: ADOPT proviso as amended.

SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT proviso as amended.

63.8. (DPS: School Safety Program) (A) Funds appropriated for the School Safety Program and School Resource Officers in this act shall be utilized by the department for the purpose of hiring certified law enforcement officers to serve as a school resource officer for school districts, including the South Carolina Public Charter School District and schools authorized by an institution of higher learning, that otherwise would lack the adequate resources to hire their own school resource officers. In making determinations of eligibility, the department shall use the most recent index of taxpaying ability as the district's indicator of ability to pay with districts of the lowest index of taxpaying ability receiving priority consideration. Districts, in collaboration with a local law enforcement agency of its choosing, must apply for funding through the department. In making awards the department shall provide funding directly to the local law enforcement agency, or private companies, as authorized, to pay for the cost of the law enforcement officer that shall serve as a full time school resource officer. Unexpended funds may be carried forward and expended for salaries, equipment, and training. School district superintendents shall provide to the department at the end of each quarter the number of full and part-time school resource officers that currently serve schools in their respective districts, regardless of the fund sources supporting those officers. *Of the funds appropriated for the School Safety Program and School Resource Officers, the Department of Public Safety shall consider a public or charter school serving kindergarten through eighth grade with an enrollment exceeding one thousand five hundred students to be eligible for a state-funded School Resource Officer, without regard to whether the school is located within a single facility. Funds allocated pursuant to this provision shall be used solely to supplement locally-funded School Resource Officers by authorizing a state-funded position and shall not be used to supplant or replace local funds appropriated for the same purpose.*

(B) The Department of Education shall transfer any fund balance to the Department of Public Safety by August 15.

SECTION 66 - N080 - DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION, PAROLE AND PARDON SERVICES

66.6 **AMEND** (DPPP: Reentry Transition Services) Directs the department to allocate up to \$500,000, if available, for reentry transition services.

WMC: AMEND proviso to update fiscal year reference.

HOU: ADOPT proviso as amended.

SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT proviso as amended.

66.6. (DPPP: Reentry Transition Services) For Fiscal Year ~~2025-26~~2026-27, the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services shall allocate up to \$500,000 of any fund balances, if available, for reentry transition services.

SECTION 67 - N120 - DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

67.6 **CONFORM TO FUNDING** (DJJ: Juvenile Arbitration/Community Advocacy Program) Directs that Juvenile Arbitration Program funds be retained and expended to provide juvenile arbitration services through the 16 Judicial Circuit Solicitors' offices to fund administrative and

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personnel costs of the programs. Directs DJJ to contract with the Solicitors to administer the program and to disburse up to \$60,000 per Judicial Circuit based on services rendered. Directs that the \$350,000 for the Community Advocacy Program in the first Judicial Circuit be used for necessary administrative and personnel costs for this status offender diversion program. Authorizes unexpended funds to be retained and carried forward for the same purpose.

WMC: AMEND proviso to update the judicial disbursement amount for the Juvenile Arbitration Program. Requested by the Department of Juvenile Justice.

HOU: ADOPT proviso as amended.

SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: CONFORM TO FUNDING.

67.6. (DJJ: Juvenile Arbitration/Community Advocacy Program) (A) The amount appropriated and authorized in this section for the Juvenile Arbitration Program shall be retained and expended by the Department of Juvenile Justice for the purpose of providing juvenile arbitration services through the sixteen Judicial Circuit Solicitors' offices in the state and used to fund necessary administrative and personnel costs for the programs.

(B) The Department of Juvenile Justice shall contract with Solicitors to administer the Juvenile Arbitration Program and disburse up to ~~\$60,000~~ \$120,000 per Judicial Circuit based on services rendered. The amount payable to Solicitors may vary based on consistent adherence to established statewide program guidelines to assess program performance.

(C) The \$350,000 appropriated for the Community Advocacy Program in the first Judicial Circuit, will be used to fund necessary administrative and personnel costs for this status offender diversion program. The Department of Juvenile Justice shall monitor and provide support to this program.

(D) All unexpended funds may be retained and carried forward from the prior fiscal year to be used for the same purposes.

67.16 **AMEND** (DJJ: Capital Expenditure Charge) Directs that local governments using the Department of Juvenile Justice's detention services must pay a \$125 daily capital expenditure fee per child for up to 25 days for new admissions after July 1, 2025, in addition to the existing \$50 daily operating fee. If a local government does not pay in full, the unpaid amount will be transferred from its allocation in the local government fund to the department and counted as a distribution to that local government.

WMC: AMEND proviso to exclude municipalities with populations less than 3000 from the \$125 per diem but requires them to pay a \$50 per diem, per child not to exceed 25 days for admissions after July 1, 2026 to cover expenditures and investments. Sponsor: Rep. Lowe

HOU: ADOPT proviso as amended.

SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT proviso as amended.

67.16. (DJJ: Capital Expenditure Charge) Local governments, *except for municipalities with populations of three thousand or less*, utilizing the juvenile detention services provided by the Department of Juvenile Justice shall pay a capital expenditure charge of \$125 per day per child not to exceed 25 days to the department for new admissions after July 1, 2025, to cover capital expenditures and investments in the facilities that house such juveniles. *Municipalities with populations of three thousand or less utilizing the juvenile detention services provided by the Department of Juvenile Justice shall pay a capital expenditure charge of \$50 per day per child not to exceed 25 days to the department for new admissions after July 1, 2026, to cover capital expenditures and investments in the facilities that house such juveniles.* This capital expenditure charge is in addition to the per diem charge of \$50 that offsets operating expenses. If full funding is not received from the local governments, then the remainder of the funds due shall be transferred to the department from the local government fund on behalf of such local

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governments. The transfer to the department of behalf of the local government shall be deemed to have been distributed to the local government.

SECTION 109 - R440 - DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

- 109.17 AMEND** (DOR: Emergency Commodity Assistance Program) Allows federally-earned emergency commodity assistance program funds to be exempt from state income taxes.
WMC: AMEND proviso to update fiscal year reference.
HOU: ADOPT proviso as amended.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT proviso as amended.

109.17. (DOR: Emergency Commodity Assistance Program) For Fiscal Year ~~2025-26~~2026-27, federally-earned emergency commodity assistance program funds from the United States Department of Agriculture are exempt from state income taxes.

SECTION 117 - X900 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 117.110 AMEND** (GP: Retail Facilities Revitalization Act Repeal Suspension) Suspends the repeal of Chapter 34 of Title 6, relating to the Retail Facilities Act, as specified in Act 285 of 2006 for sites that provided DOR written notification of election of mode of credit before 7/1/16 and for which a building permit was issued prior to 7/1/16.
WMC: AMEND proviso to update the fiscal year reference.
HOU: ADOPT proviso as amended.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT proviso as amended.

117.110. (GP: Retail Facilities Revitalization Act Repeal Suspension) The repeal of Chapter 34, Title 6 of the 1976 Code as specified in Act 285 of 2006 as to sites for which written notification of election of mode of credit has been provided to the Department of Revenue prior to July 1, 2016 and for which a building permit has been issued prior to July 1, 2016, is suspended for Fiscal Year ~~2025-26~~2026-27.

- 117.157 DELETE** (GP: Employee Retention and Recruitment) Appropriates funds to the Commission on Prosecution Coordination Commission and the Commission on Indigent Defense for recruitment and retention. Directs that before funds are disbursed, all Prosecution and Indigent Defense Circuits shall provide a report of current warrants pending. Directs the commissions to provide progress reports to the Chief Administrative Judge of each respective circuit handling the General Sessions docket, the Chairmen of the Senate Finance Committee and House Ways and Means Committee, and the Governor's Office semiannually.
WMC: DELETE proviso. Requested by the Commission on Prosecution Coordination and Indigent Defense.
HOU: ADOPT deletion.
SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: ADOPT deletion.

117.157. (GP: Employee Retention and Recruitment) ~~(A) For Fiscal Year 2025-26, the Circuit Solicitor and Circuit Public Defender for each judicial circuit shall provide to the Commission on Prosecution Coordination Director and the Commission on Indigent Defense Director, respectively, a report of current warrants pending. The report shall provide the total number of warrants pending in Circuit Court on July 1st of the preceding and current fiscal year, and the total number of warrants disposed of in the previous fiscal year. In addition, the report~~

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shall provide the aging categories for pending warrants as follows: (1) those pending 365 days or less; (2) those pending 366 days to 544 days; and (3) the number of warrants pending more than 545 days. Each circuit shall also submit on a semiannual basis an updated report on the current number of warrants pending.

~~(B) The Commission on Prosecution Coordination and the Commission on Indigent Defense shall semiannually report progress updates to the Chief Administrative Judge of each respective circuit handling the General Sessions docket, the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Governor's Office. The report shall include the utilization of the funds distributed among the circuits, steps taken to retain current employees, the number of new FTEs that have been hired, and information obtained from circuits on how these measures will go towards reducing both the number and aging warrants pending.~~

117.200 AMEND NEW PROVISO (GP: First Responder Interoperability) **WMC:** ADD proviso direct SLED to administer and coordinate First Responder Interoperability operations for the statewide Palmetto 800 radio system to enhance public safety communications. Funds will cover radio user fees for eligible state agencies and first responders, with allocations based on a baseline number of radios per participant. Matching funds are required to receive support. Grants will also be available for local systems to improve interoperability. Remaining funds may be used to expand the system. Funds are held in a separate account and may carry forward. An annual status report is due by October 1 to the Chairmen of Senate Finance and House Ways and Means. Sponsor: Rep. Lowe

HOU: ADOPT new proviso.

SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: AMEND new proviso by deleting reference to the procurements by SLED for the administration and coordination of the Palmetto 800 radio system as being exempt from the purchasing procedures of the Consolidated Procurement Code in Chapter 35, Title 11.

117.200. (GP: First Responder Interoperability) (A) For the current fiscal year, the First Responder Interoperability Program and the funds appropriated to the Department of Administration for this purpose are transferred to the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED). The employees, assets, liabilities, and contracts of the program are also transferred to and become part of SLED. All personnel transferred by this provision are to become employees of SLED with the same compensation, classification, and grade level. Applicable contracts entered by or on behalf of the program are continued and are considered to be devolved upon SLED at the time of the transfer.

(B) SLED is directed to administer and coordinate First Responder Interoperability operations for the statewide Palmetto 800 radio system to better coordinate public safety disaster responses and communications. First Responder Interoperability administration and coordination shall be funded as provided in this act. The cost-proportional funds shall be utilized for radio user fees of state agencies and public safety-first responders (Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement) that participate in the statewide Palmetto 800 radio system (Palmetto 800 participants). SLED, in consultation with the Department of Administration, the Department of Public Safety, the State Emergency Management Division, a representative of the South Carolina Police Chief's Association, and a representative of the South Carolina Sheriff's Association, shall set a baseline number of radios used by each Palmetto 800 participant based on the technical aspects of the Palmetto 800 radio system and the jurisdictional requirements of the participant. If a Palmetto 800 participant reduces the baseline number of radios in use, the amount of funds allocated for the participant's radio user fees shall be reduced in a proportional amount. Procurements by SLED for the administration and coordination of the Palmetto 800 radio system

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~~are exempt from the purchasing procedures of the Consolidated Procurement Code in Chapter 35 of Title 11.~~

~~(C) The funds shall also be utilized to provide private county and city radio systems with grant funds to be used for purchases of equipment that supports interoperability with the statewide Palmetto 800 radio system and its users. Grant funds shall be allocated to private county and city radio systems based on the criteria used for Palmetto 800 participants and in amounts proportional to the amounts allocated to support the per-site radio user fees of Palmetto 800 participants. A matching share is required by a Palmetto 800 participant or by a private county or city radio system in order to qualify for receipt of funds pursuant to this proviso. Each fiscal year SLED shall establish the level of match required based upon funding provided by this act. These entities shall be required to furnish such documentation as may be required by the department to verify that the matching funds requirement is met. Upon funding state agency and public safety-first responder user fees and private county and city equipment purchases, any remaining funds may be used to enhance and expand the statewide Palmetto 800 radio system. All funds shall be held in a separate account established by the department for the purposes set forth herein. Any unexpended portion of these funds may be carried forward and used for the same purpose. In the calculation of any across-the-board budget reduction mandated by the Executive Budget Office or General Assembly, the amount appropriated to SLED for First Responder Interoperability must be excluded from the department's base budget.~~

~~(D) SLED shall provide a report on the status of the integration of the statewide Palmetto 800 radio system, which shall include, but not be limited to, a list of entities that are not integrated into the system as of the end of the immediately preceding fiscal year and the reason why they are not integrated. The report shall be submitted by October first of the current fiscal year to the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.~~

117.204 DELETE (GP: Third Circuit Drug Court Administration) **HOU:** ADD proviso to direct the funds for the Drug Court for the Third Judicial Circuit to be transferred to the Solicitor's Office for the Third Judicial Circuit, and to cap the salary of the drug court judge at a total of \$30,000. **SFC SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** DELETE new proviso.

~~**117.204.** (GP: Third Circuit Drug Court Administration) For the current fiscal year, all funds appropriated or authorized for the Drug Court for the Third Judicial Circuit shall be transferred to the Solicitor's Office for the Third Judicial Circuit. The Solicitor's Office shall oversee the distribution and usage of these funds by the Drug Court program and shall ensure the amount utilized for the salary of the drug court judge shall not exceed \$30,000 in total.~~