



ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session

Senate: MAPS DP 6-1-0-0 | 3rd Read 26-3-1-0
House: APPROP DPA 12-1-1-1

SB 1055: full-service crime labs; funding; appropriation

Sponsor: Senator Gowan, LD 19

House Engrossed

Overview

Replaces statutory Department of Public Safety Forensics Fund (Fund) allocations to political subdivisions with a formula based on the number of crimes reported from each full-service crime laboratory.

History

The Fund receives revenue from the Criminal Justice Enhancement Fund, a court surcharge for criminal offenses and civil traffic violations, and the first \$10,400,000 of revenue generated from the defensive driving school fee (A.R.S. §§ [12-116.01](#); [28-3396](#); [41-2401](#)).

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) administers the Fund and is required to distribute 45% of the Fund's balance on a quarterly basis to the Phoenix Police Department (22%), Tucson Police Department (12%), Mesa Police Department (7%) and Scottsdale Police Department (4%). DPS may use the remainder of the Fund for outlined forensics purposes, including crime laboratory operations and equipment, fingerprint identification equipment, and DNA testing ([A.R.S. § 41-1730](#)).

Provisions

1. Requires DPS to distribute monies in the Fund to each full-service crime laboratory, rather than to specific political subdivisions. (Sec. 1)
2. Directs DPS to distribute Fund monies based on the proportion of crimes reported by a full-service crime laboratory, compared to the total number reported in all jurisdictions:
 - a) Using the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) summary reporting system classification for fiscal years 2024, 2025 and 2026; and
 - b) Using the FBI national incident-based reporting system classification beginning in fiscal year 2027 and following. (Sec. 1)
3. Removes the requirement that crime laboratory directors must agree on the distribution formula and allocation. (Sec. 1)
4. Specifies that the formula for distribution of Fund monies may not be used for other grant distributions. (Sec. 1)
5. Changes the definition of *crime laboratory* to *full-service crime laboratory*, which must:
 - a) Be operated by either a criminal justice agency of the state or a political subdivision;
 - b) Be accredited by an organization that uses field specific accreditation standards; and
 - c) Provide a minimum of six of nine outlined forensic disciplines, including at least DNA, digital forensics or drug toxicology. (Sec. 1)

<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 105 (45 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Prop 108 (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency (40 votes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal Note
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