

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1307
(Representatives Roers Jones, Lefor, Mock, O'Brien, Pyle)
(Senators Meyer, Patten, J. Roers, K. Roers)

AN ACT to provide an appropriation to the attorney general for a back the blue grant program; and to provide for a report.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION - ATTORNEY GENERAL - BACK THE BLUE GRANT PROGRAM - ONE-TIME FUNDING - REPORT TO SIXTY-NINTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$3,500,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the attorney general for the purpose of providing back the blue grants to assist local law enforcement agencies with workforce recruitment and retention, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025. The attorney general shall provide grants to each city and county law enforcement agency in the state based on the proportional number of licensed peace officers and correctional officers employed by the city or county law enforcement agency compared to the total number of licensed peace officers and correctional officers employed by all city and county law enforcement agencies. Of the funding available under this program, a sum of at least \$750,000 must be granted to local law enforcement agencies employing ten or fewer employees working in a law enforcement capacity. Funding appropriated in this section may be used for providing hiring and retention bonuses to new and current law enforcement and correctional officers and providing tuition and fee payments on behalf of law enforcement trainees. This funding is considered a one-time funding item. Law enforcement agencies receiving funding under this section shall report to the attorney general regarding the use and effectiveness of the funding. The attorney general shall report to the sixty-ninth legislative assembly regarding the use and effectiveness of grant funds and the number of grants provided pursuant to this section.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1307.

House Vote: Yeas 90 Nays 0 Absent 4

Senate Vote: Yeas 42 Nays 5 Absent 0

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2023.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2023,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State