



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
Section**

Washington Square Building, Suite 1025  
Lansing, Michigan 48909  
Phone 517/373-6466

**JUSTICE TRAINING FUNDS**

**RECEIVED**

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House Bill 4021  
Sponsor: Rep. Michael E. Nye  
Committee: Appropriations

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**A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4021 AS INTRODUCED 1-11-89**

The justice training act, Public Act 302 of 1982, establishes a framework for the distribution of funds for training law enforcement officers. The bill would amend the act to revise the membership of the commission which administers the justice training fund, and establish new standards for the distribution and use of grants from the fund. The bill would take effect January 1, 1990. A more detailed explanation follows.

Commission matters. The Michigan Justice Training Commission at present consists of the directors of the Departments of State Police and Corrections, and the presidents of the Prosecuting Attorneys' Association of Michigan, the Michigan Sheriffs' Association, and the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, along with one person appointed by the governor and representing the interests of nonmanagerial police officers. The bill would expand the commission from six to seven members by adding one gubernatorial appointee representing the interests of the public.

The bill would forbid a commission member from serving more than two consecutive years as chairperson. Commission members could not be reimbursed for alcoholic liquor, or for meal expenditures in excess of the per diem meal allowance authorized for members of the state civil service.

Distribution of the fund. Sixty percent of the fund is earmarked for in-service criminal justice training of police officers. It is distributed annually on a per capita basis to the state police, local units of government, and educational institutions (termed "eligible entities" under the bill) based on the number of full-time sworn police officers employed. The bill would specify that distributions be based on the number of full-time equated officers. For each year, the percentage of officers who provide direct police service and who received training under the act would have to be at least equal to the percentage of administrative officers receiving training. Each eligible entity receiving money from this portion of the fund would have to use the entire distribution within two years after receiving it. Failure to do so would make the entity ineligible to receive additional distributions until the prior distribution was spent. Each eligible entity would receive a minimum distribution of \$500.

The balance of the fund, except for money needed for commission expenses, goes to community colleges and state and local agencies for in-service criminal justice training programs, based on the quality and cost-effectiveness of the programs and the criminal justice needs of the state. The bill would require that this portion of the fund be distributed through a competitive grant process. Under the bill, these grants would go to state and local agencies, but that term would be redefined to include community colleges and any component of the one court of justice, in addition to state-supported colleges and universities and agencies of the state and local units of government. A professional association would be specifically barred from

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receiving a grant. A grant recipient could obtain funds either for in-service training or to supplement other funds used to provide criminal justice training to the employees of other state or local agencies.

The act at present designates a portion of the fund for the Office of Criminal Justice (within the Department of Management and Budget) to cover its expenses in providing staff support for the commission. The bill would direct this money to the department, and would have it be used to cover the expense of maintaining a register of criminal justice training programs in Michigan, in addition to the expense of staff services.

Prohibited uses of funds. Distributions from the fund may not be used for out-of-state training, or for training conducted by an out-of-state provider, unless first approved by the commission. Under the bill, the commission could not approve a distribution for any out-of-state training program unless the prospective recipient had exhausted all reasonable efforts to locate a similar program in Michigan, and the commission was satisfied that a similar program was not available in Michigan. The bill would in addition prohibit distributions for criminal justice training in another country, for alcoholic liquor, and for meal expenditures in excess of the per diem meal allowance authorized for civil service employees.

Fund management. Investment earnings from fund assets would have to be deposited in the fund. The commission's books and records would be audited by the auditor general every two years. In its required annual report to the commission, each recipient of fund money would have to separately identify each training program financed in whole or in part by a distribution from the fund.

Repealer. The bill would repeal Public Act 541 of 1978 (MCL 18.401 to 18.407), the act which created the Commission on Criminal Justice, the Committee on Juvenile Justice, and the Office of Criminal Justice.

MCL 18.421 et al.