

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS22906

Peace Officer Standards and Training courses are offered, in the form of an academy, at two locations in Idaho. Prior to this year, POST Meridian provided weekly tests, including test preparation and grading to the academy located in North Idaho. That support has been withheld which puts another burden on local property taxpayers who help support the program. This bill would split an existing revenue stream between the current two academies, and future additional academies should any others start, based on enrollment of department sponsored personnel at said academies.

FISCAL NOTE

Nothing to general fund. A change in distribution of funds collected from certain traffic violations will occur, based on academy attendance. The fiscal impact will vary from agency to agency. However, using the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office as an example, we know the following for calendar year 2013:

In 2013, the Sheriff's Office wrote 5,899 citations. 5,712 of those citations are such that the \$15.00 P.O.S.T. fee is attached. Using conservative numbers of a 90% conviction rate, this means that 5,141 citation convictions paid the \$15.00 P.O.S.T. fee for a total income from the Sheriff's Office of \$77,112.00.

Since P.O.S.T. charges self sponsored students \$4,000.00 dollars for a 10-week academy, it is reasonable to believe that academy costs are \$400.00 per week per officer.

During calendar year 2013, nine Kootenai County deputies attended Detention Academy Training in Meridian. Five of those attended a five-week academy and four attended a six week academy. Total, deputies spent 49 deputy weeks at the academy in Meridian. Also during 2013, four deputies spent 13 weeks at the academy in Post Falls for a total of 52 deputy weeks at the Post Falls Academy. That means that Kootenai County deputies spent 48.5% of their academy time in Meridian and 51.5% of their academy time in Post Falls. Under the proposed funding mechanism, the Meridian Academy would receive 48.5% of the \$77,112.00 generated by the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office for a total of \$37,399.32. The academy in Post Falls would receive 51.5% of the \$77,112.00 generated by the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office for a total of \$39,712.68.

Based on the cost that the P.O.S.T. states is the average cost to train an officer at the academy in Meridian, it should cost \$19,600 for 49 weeks at \$400.00 per week. Yet, the academy in Meridian would be receiving \$37,399.32. This means that they would bring in \$17,799.32 more than it costs to conduct the training at the Meridian Academy. However, today it cost P.O.S.T. the same \$19,600.00 but they received the entire \$77,112.00 generated by the Sheriff's Office.

Contact:

Senator John W. Goedde
(208) 332-1000