Budget Unit Brief



Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program

Background

In 2015, <u>HF 585</u> (Victims of Violence, Information Protections, Criminal Surcharge Act) established the Safe at Home Address Confidentiality Program effective January 1, 2016. The Program provides a substitute address for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, or stalking to use on all public records. In addition, the Program provides a mail-forwarding service and confidential voter registration and absentee ballots. Iowa is the 34th state to implement this Program. Participants in the Program are provided an enrollment card from the Secretary of State's Office good for a term of four years. Participants may re-enroll in the Program after each term.

Funding

House File 585 (Victims of Violence, Information Protections, Criminal Surcharge Act) created two new surcharges that took effect July 1, 2015, as follows:

- \$100 for adjudication of guilt or deferred judgement for a crime of domestic assault, sexual abuse, stalking, or human trafficking.
- \$50 for a domestic abuse protective order contempt surcharge for violating a domestic abuse protective order.

The Act also created the Address Confidentiality Program Revolving Fund. Moneys in the Fund are to be collected by the Clerk of Court from the surcharges and appropriated by the General Assembly to the Secretary of State's Office. The Secretary of State's Office is also required to file an annual report with the Department of Management (DOM) and the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) regarding expenditures from the Fund.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code section 9.8

Revised August 18, 2016

More Information

Secretary of State, Safe At Home Program: http://safeathome.iowa.gov/

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