

8.39 Use of appropriations — transfer.

1. Except as otherwise provided by law, an appropriation or any part of it shall not be used for any other purpose than that for which it was made. However, with the prior written consent and approval of the governor and the director of the department of management, the governing board or head of any state department, institution, or agency may, at any time during the fiscal year, make a whole or partial intradepartmental transfer of its unexpended appropriations for purposes within the scope of such department, institution, or agency. Such transfer shall be to an appropriation made from the same funding source and within the same fiscal year. The amount of a transfer made from an appropriation under [this subsection](#) shall be limited to not more than one-tenth of one percent of the total of all appropriations made from the funding source of the transferred appropriation for the fiscal year in which the transfer is made.

2. If the appropriation of a department, institution, or agency is insufficient to properly meet the legitimate expenses of the department, institution, or agency, the director, with the approval of the governor, may make an interdepartmental transfer from any other department, institution, or agency of the state having an appropriation in excess of its needs, of sufficient funds to meet that deficiency. Such transfer shall be to an appropriation made from the same funding source and within the same fiscal year. The amount of a transfer made from an appropriation under [this subsection](#) shall be limited to not more than one-tenth of one percent of the total of all appropriations made from the funding source of the transferred appropriation for the fiscal year in which the transfer is made. An interdepartmental transfer to an appropriation which is not an entitlement appropriation is not authorized when the general assembly is in regular session and, in addition, the sum of interdepartmental transfers in a fiscal year to an appropriation which is not an entitlement appropriation shall not exceed fifty percent of the amount of the appropriation as enacted by the general assembly. For the purposes of [this subsection](#), an entitlement appropriation is a line item appropriation to the state public defender for indigent defense or to the department of health and human services for foster care, state supplementary assistance, medical assistance, or for the family investment program.

3. The aggregate amount of intradepartmental and interdepartmental transfers made from all appropriations for a fiscal year pursuant to [this section](#) is limited to not more than five-tenths of one percent of the total amount of the appropriations made from the general fund of the state for the fiscal year. The aggregate amount of the intradepartmental and interdepartmental transfers made from an appropriation for a fiscal year is limited to fifty percent of the appropriation.

4. Prior to any transfer of funds pursuant to [subsection 1 or 2 of this section](#) or a transfer of an allocation from a subunit of a department which statutorily has independent budgeting authority, the director shall notify the chairpersons of the standing committees on appropriations of the senate and the house of representatives and the chairpersons of subcommittees of such committees of the proposed transfer. The notice from the director shall include information concerning the amount of the proposed transfer, the departments, institutions, or agencies affected by the proposed transfer and the reasons for the proposed transfer. Chairpersons notified shall be given at least two weeks to review and comment on the proposed transfer before the transfer of funds is made.

5. *a.* Any transfer made under the provisions of [this section](#) shall be reported to the legislative fiscal committee on a monthly basis. The report shall cover each calendar month and shall be due the tenth day of the following month. The report shall contain the following:

- (1) The amount of each transfer.
- (2) The date of each transfer.
- (3) The departments and funds affected.
- (4) A brief explanation of the reason for the transfer.
- (5) Such other information as may be required by the committee.

b. A summary of all transfers made under the provisions of [this section](#) shall be included in the annual report of the legislative fiscal committee.

[C97, §187; SS15, §170-q; C24, 27, 31, §345; C35, §84-a3; C39, §84.32; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §8.39]

[86 Acts, ch 1245, §2022](#); [87 Acts, ch 115, §5](#); [94 Acts, ch 1181, §6](#); [94 Acts, ch 1199, §44](#); [2011 Acts, ch 117, §2 – 4](#); [2017 Acts, ch 54, §7](#); [2023 Acts, ch 19, §6](#); [2023 Acts, ch 64, §3](#)

Referred to in [§8.62](#), [16.57A](#), [24.24](#), [80.42](#), [125.44](#), [218.6](#), [249A.26](#), [261E.13](#), [284.13](#), [307.46](#), [313.5](#)

Subsections 2 and 4 amended