



[HF 2568](#) – Cyber Crime Investigation Bureau (LSB5247HV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

[House File 2568](#) establishes a Cyber Crime Investigation Unit within the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The Unit is charged with investigating crimes that have a nexus to the Internet or computer technology, including crimes involving child exploitation and cyber intrusion. The Bill grants the Unit the authority to carry out the following tasks:

- Conduct investigations and forensic analyses of criminal cases involving computer technology.
- Research and provide training to assist other governmental agencies in prosecuting cases related to cybercrime.
- Provide investigative and prosecutorial assistance to other governmental agencies involved with cybercrime.

Additionally, [HF 2568](#) directs the Commissioner of Public Safety to dedicate two full-time equivalent (FTE) positions to the Unit, as well as allowing for additional staff to be hired if the need arises.

Background

The Division of Criminal Investigation in the DPS oversees an existing Cyber Crime Unit that focuses primarily on investigations involving online exploitation of children and acts as the lead agency in the State under the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. The Unit also responds to both cyber intrusions and other non-child exploitation cyber investigations.

Assumptions

- Cyber investigations require both investigative and forensic expertise.
- The skills and training required to conduct online child exploitation investigations differ greatly from those needed to investigate cyber intrusion or other cybercrimes not involving child exploitation. Any additional hires under [HF 2568](#) would need to accommodate these special skills and training.

Fiscal Impact

Due to the complex nature of the investigative and forensic examinations that would be completed by the Cyber Crime Investigation Unit established by [HF 2568](#), the DPS estimates that it would need to hire both a new investigator and a new forensic examiner. These positions would be classified as Special Agent 2 positions. Costs associated with filling these FTE positions and the implementation of [HF 2568](#) are provided in the table below.

**Cyber Crime Unit: Estimated Personnel and Implementation Costs,
FY 2021 – FY 2023**

Category	Cost		
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Salary and Benefits			
Special Agent 2: Investigator	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Special Agent 2: Forensic Examiner	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Forensic Equipment	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,000
Investigative Equipment	\$ 50,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 20,000
Cell Phone Investigative Equipment	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 2,500
Forensic Training	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,000
Investigative Training	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 7,500
Cell Phone Training	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Total	\$ 427,500	\$ 417,500	\$ 365,000

Funding for these FTE positions and related costs for the establishment and implementation of the Cyber Crime Investigation Unit under the DPS would likely be appropriated from the General Fund.

Sources

Legislative Services Agency
Department of Public Safety

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.
