



[SF 561](#) – Cold Case Unit (LSB1946SV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

[Senate File 561](#) establishes a Cold Case Investigation Unit within the Department of Public Safety (DPS). The Unit is tasked, within its capabilities, with conducting criminal investigations after an initial criminal investigation has been completed by law enforcement. The Unit is to focus on investigations involving unsolved murders, missing children, and missing adults presumed to be dead. The Bill requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to appoint at least 2.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions to the Cold Case Investigation Unit.

Background

Currently, no specific unit within the DPS is assigned to handle existing cold cases. At this time, the Major Crimes Unit (MCU) takes responsibility for investigating cold cases as time and resources allow.

Assumptions

- Due to the complex nature of cold case investigations, the DPS will need to appoint agents at the position classification level of Special Agent. In order to investigate cold cases, significant crime-solving experience is needed.
- It is assumed that the DPS will reassign 2.0 existing Special Agent positions. In order to backfill these two positions and to accommodate the Department's internal hiring process, the DPS assumes it would eventually hire two Trooper I positions.
- Due to the strict timeline of the hiring process and subsequent academy admission, it is likely that the DPS will not be able to fully onboard the two Trooper I positions needed for personnel backfill until FY 2023.
- For FY 2024, compensation totals are adjusted for a 3.0% increase in salary and benefits.

Fiscal Impact

Table 1 provides a breakdown of the cost for 2.0 Trooper I FTE position for two years, including salary and benefit details.

Table 1 — Cost of 2.0 Trooper I FTE Positions, FY 2023 – FY 2024

Expense	FY 2023	FY 2024
Salary & Benefits	\$ 134,200	\$ 138,400
Uniform & Outerwear	9,160	0
Firearms & Ammunition	6,800	0
Portable Radio & Equipment	18,600	0
Vehicle	52,000	0
Laptop & Accessories	12,000	0
Additional Vehicle Equipment	\$ 65,800	\$ 0
Total	\$ 298,560	\$ 138,400

Senate File 561 will increase the cost to the DPS by an estimated \$298,600 in FY 2023 and \$138,400 in FY 2024.

Sources

Department of Public Safety
LSA analysis

/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.

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