

**Senate File 446 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 446

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**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act creating the community law enforcement enhancement fund  
2 and providing an appropriation.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 80.48 Community law enforcement  
2 enhancement fund.

3 1. A community law enforcement enhancement fund is  
4 established in the state treasury under the control of the  
5 department. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated to  
6 the fund for the purposes specified in subsection 2.

7 2. Moneys appropriated to the fund shall be used for grants  
8 to municipal police departments and county sheriff departments.  
9 Grants may be awarded for the following purposes:

10 a. *Peace officer body cameras.* For the purchase of  
11 equipment, training, the establishment of information storage  
12 and retrieval procedures and facilities, and other expenses  
13 properly related to initiating a program for peace officers to  
14 wear and operate body cameras while on duty in the community.

15 b. *Community mental health advocate.* For recruiting,  
16 training, and paying a portion of the first-year salary and  
17 benefits of a community mental health advocate position within  
18 a municipal police department or county sheriff department.  
19 The duties of a community mental health advocate shall include  
20 but are not limited to the following:

21 (1) Provide access to mental health services that may be  
22 necessary after a person's contact with law enforcement.

23 (2) Act as a liaison between a local law enforcement agency  
24 and mental health services providers and agencies.

25 (3) Review departmental calls for mental health services to  
26 identify the mental health needs of consumers.

27 (4) Assist mental health consumers with identifying and  
28 obtaining services.

29 (5) Assist mental health services providers in  
30 understanding consumer needs in the community.

31 (6) Coordinate and assist with law enforcement actions  
32 requiring possible mental health services.

33 (7) Assist in developing, coordinating, and implementing  
34 mental health training.

35 3. A municipal police department or county sheriff

1 department may make separate applications for each of the  
2 purposes specified in subsection 2.

3 4. Grant awards may be made for up to fifty thousand dollars  
4 per grant awarded.

5 5. The department shall allocate at least thirty percent  
6 of available funds for grants for each of the purposes  
7 specified in subsection 2, provided that adequate qualified  
8 applications are received in each category. The department  
9 shall distribute funds as equitably as possible to achieve a  
10 balanced distribution of funds geographically within the state  
11 and among large and small communities.

12 6. Notwithstanding section 8.33, any balance in the fund on  
13 June 30 of any fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund  
14 of the state but shall remain available for expenditure for the  
15 purposes designated for subsequent fiscal years.

16 7. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
17 necessary for the administration of this section.

18 8. This section is repealed January 1, 2028.

19 Sec. 2. COMMUNITY LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT FUND —  
20 APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the general fund of  
21 the state to the department of public safety for deposit into  
22 the community law enforcement enhancement fund established in  
23 section 80.48 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and  
24 ending June 30, 2022, the following amount, or so much thereof  
25 as is necessary, to be used for the purposes of the fund:  
26 ..... \$ 5,000,000

27 EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill creates the community law enforcement enhancement  
31 fund (fund) established in the state treasury under the  
32 control of the department of public safety and provides an  
33 appropriation.

34 The bill provides that moneys appropriated to the fund  
35 shall be used for grants to municipal police departments and

1 county sheriff departments for the following purposes: for  
2 the purchase of equipment, training, the establishment of  
3 information storage and retrieval procedures and facilities,  
4 and other expenses properly related to initiating a program for  
5 peace officers to wear and operate body cameras while on duty  
6 in the community; and for recruiting, training, and paying a  
7 portion of the first-year salary and benefits of a community  
8 mental health advocate position within a municipal police  
9 department or a county sheriff department. The bill specifies  
10 the duties of a community mental health advocate which include  
11 but are not limited to the following: providing access to  
12 mental health services that may be necessary after a person's  
13 contact with law enforcement; acting as a liaison between  
14 a local law enforcement agency and mental health services  
15 providers and agencies; reviewing departmental calls for  
16 mental health services to identify the mental health needs of  
17 consumers; assisting mental health consumers with identifying  
18 and obtaining services; assisting mental health services  
19 providers in understanding consumer needs in the community;  
20 coordinating and assisting with law enforcement actions  
21 requiring possible mental health services; and assisting in  
22 developing, coordinating, and implementing mental health  
23 training.

24 The bill provides that grant awards may be made for up to  
25 \$50,000 per grant awarded, and a municipal police department or  
26 county sheriff department may make separate applications for  
27 each of the purposes of the fund. The department of public  
28 safety shall allocate at least 30 percent of available funds  
29 to grants for each of the purposes of the fund, and shall  
30 distribute funds as equitably as possible to achieve a balanced  
31 distribution of funds geographically within the state and among  
32 large and small communities. Any balance in the fund on June  
33 30 of any fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund of  
34 the state.

35 The department is directed to adopt rules pursuant to Code

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1 chapter 17A necessary for the administration of the bill.

2 The bill is repealed on January 1, 2028.

3 The bill makes an appropriation of \$5 million from the  
4 general fund of the state to the department of public safety  
5 for deposit into the fund established in the bill for the  
6 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022.