

CONFIDENTIAL
LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW FORM: 2016

Bill Number: H. 676 Name of Bill: Victims Compensation Board access to law enforcement records

Agency/Dept: DPS/VSP Author of Bill Review: Sgt. Matt Denis

Date of Bill Review: 2-21-16 Related Bills and Key Players: Rep: Grad (Moretown) Rep: Morris (Bennington)

Status of Bill: (check one)

Upon Introduction As passed by 1st body As passed by both bodies

Recommended Position:

Support Oppose Remain Neutral Support with modifications identified in # 8 below

Analysis of Bill

1. **Summary of bill and issue it addresses.** The purpose of this bill is to ensure the Victims Compensation Board has access to law enforcement records necessary to process victim's claims for financial assistance.
2. **Is there a need for this bill?** This bill appears to serve no purpose other than to provide documents that provide narrative of a crime to the Victims Compensation Board members, it is my understanding that these documents are already available from the States Attorneys in each of the counties, and the records listed are all public record and easily accessible.
3. **What are likely to be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for this Department?** The problems that likely would exist are that the arresting agency or local agency being requested for these records could be burden with the copying and delivery of hundreds/thousands of forms that are already in existence at the prosecuting States Attorney Office.
4. **What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for other departments in state government, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?** Fiscally this bill could cause very minimal monetary cost to an agency but potentially countless hours for an administration staff to make and provide copies to each member of the Compensation Board.
5. **What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for others, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?** The likely perspective is that this is going to be "another" burden to their resources, specifically admin staff that will be required to provide the documents.
6. **Other Stakeholders: Unknown**

6.1 Who else is likely to support the proposal and why? This bill would likely be supported only by

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the members of the Victims Compensation Board.

6.2 Who else is likely to oppose the proposal and why? All agencies that would be required to provide the administrative aspects of copying and filling the requested information on each case

- 7. Rationale for recommendation:** It appears that the only rationale for this bill is the convenience to the Victims Compensation Board who would be permitted to ask any agency to provide them all the documents of a crime that has had a compensation request from a victim.
- 8. Specific modifications that would be needed to recommend support of this bill:** *This bill should be limited to providing to the Victims Compensation Board the charging affidavit and any supplemental affidavits that exist regarding the charge.*
- 9. Will this bill create a new board or commission AND/OR add or remove appointees to an existing one? If so, which one and how many? No**

Secretary/Commissioner has reviewed this document

Date: