



ARA-PP-02: STATE-FUNDED LAW ENFORCEMENT SALARY ENHANCEMENTS

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: NOT ADOPT; COVERED BY GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PROPOSED POLICY: SUPPORT recurring funding for law enforcement raises in fiscally constrained counties

BACKGROUND: The 2022 Legislature provided \$15,047,787 in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund for salary increases for deputy sheriffs and correctional officers employed by sheriff’s offices in fiscally constrained counties. It is requested that these funds be continued for this purpose and the formula for determining allotments be reviewed to assure county allotments are provided at the required amounts.

ANALYSIS: Language in General Appropriations Bill - From the funds in Specific Appropriation 1248, \$15,047,787 in recurring funds from the General Revenue Fund is provided for salary increases for deputy sheriffs and correctional officers employed by sheriff’s offices in fiscally constrained counties, as defined in section 218.67(1), Florida Statutes, as follows:

Baker County Sheriff’s Office.....	223,000
Bradford County Sheriff’s Office.....	535,000
Calhoun County Sheriff’s Office.....	330,773
Columbia County Sheriff’s Office.....	1,047,014
Desoto County Sheriff’s Office.....	397,000
Dixie County Sheriff’s Office.....	525,000
Franklin County Sheriff’s Office.....	410,000
Gadsden County Sheriff’s Office.....	500,000
Gilchrist County Sheriff’s Office.....	370,000
Glades County Sheriff’s Office.....	293,000
Gulf County Sheriff’s Office.....	188,000
Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office.....	206,500
Hardee County Sheriff’s Office.....	275,000



Hendry County Sheriff's Office.....	598,000
Highlands County Sheriff's Office.....	945,000
Holmes County Sheriff's Office.....	635,000
Jackson County Sheriff's Office.....	990,000
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.....	261,000
Lafayette County Sheriff's Office.....	296,000
Levy County Sheriff's Office.....	825,000
Liberty County Sheriff's Office.....	476,000
Madison County Sheriff's Office.....	487,000
Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office.....	822,500
Putnam County Sheriff's Office.....	1,125,000
Suwannee County Sheriff's Office.....	604,000
Taylor County Sheriff's Office.....	289,000
Union County Sheriff's Office.....	295,800
Wakulla County Sheriff's Office.....	653,200
Washington County Sheriff's Office.....	445,000

Funds shall be distributed in quarterly advances and reconciled at the conclusion of each state fiscal year. By October 1, 2022, the sheriff's offices shall report to the Florida Sheriff's Association how funds were distributed to officers.

FISCAL IMPACT: The Proposed Policy maintains the funding allocated for law enforcement raises from the FY 2022-23 state budget.

FAC STAFF NOTES:

- FAC 2022 Policy Conference:
 - The Committee recommended to not adopt ARA-PP-02, as it is already covered by FAC Guiding Principles
- FAC Guiding Principles:



- The proposed policy highlights several existing state programs beneficial to local governments. ARA Guiding Principles 1 and 2 recognize the unique challenges of fiscally constrained counties:
- ARA 1. The Florida Association of Counties recognizes the unique fiscal challenges of Florida's rural counties and state-designated fiscally constrained counties. The Association is dedicated to preserving established programs that provide critical resources for essential programs and infrastructure needs of these counties.
- ARA 2. The Florida Association of Counties supports enhancing programs to increase funding for rural infrastructure, job growth, and workforce development policies and efforts to reduce the digital divide and expand internet access to underserved areas through industry partnerships, new technologies, and collaboration with local stakeholders.
- FY 2022-23 Budget Appropriations:
 - The FY 2022-23 budget Specific Appropriation 1248 indicates that the funding is from recurring funds. For funding to be provided for the subsequent fiscal year, the Legislature will need to re-appropriate the recurring funding or create another funding mechanism through statute.

SUBMITTING COUNTY AND CONTACT: Washington – Tray Hawkins

ASSIGNED COMMITTEE: ARA

BOARD SUPPORT: N/A

UNFUNDED MANDATE: No

PROTECTIVE OF HOME RULE: N/A