

HB 828 -- LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT FUND

SPONSOR: White

This bill creates the Law Enforcement Technology Advancement Fund for the purpose of purchasing computer systems, audio or video recording devices, equipment or software to improve the law enforcement capabilities of a department. The fund will be underwritten by a surcharge of \$150 assessed as costs in each court proceeding excluding class C misdemeanors, infractions, or violations of a municipal ordinance, any case where the case against the defendant has been dismissed or where the state, county, or municipality has been ordered to pay court costs. The bill prohibits political subdivisions from reducing a law enforcement agency's budget as a result of moneys received from this fund. The dispersement of the moneys in the fund is at the discretion of the Director of the Department of Public Safety to be based on the merit of each department's application. The department must submit an annual report to the General Assembly detailing the benefits of the fund.