

## HB 2222 -- SHIELD OUR STREETS ACT

SPONSOR: Peters

This bill establishes the Shield Our Streets Act that authorizes the Department of Public Safety to implement a program to award grants to eligible local law enforcement agencies to assist them with hiring and rehiring career law enforcement officers.

Grant money awarded for the purposes of hiring and rehiring must be used by an eligible law enforcement agency to hire and train new career law enforcement officers for deployment in the jurisdiction of the agency or rehire career law enforcement officers who have been laid off as a result of federal, state, or local budget reductions. The grant will be for three years and may be extended or renewed for two more years at the department's discretion.

The bill requires the department to provide technical assistance to eligible local law enforcement agencies during the application process and while the agencies are receiving this grant. In addition to the funds authorized for hiring and rehiring, the bill authorizes \$10 million to be appropriated for implementation purposes in the fiscal years 2016 to 2021.

The bill authorizes the department to implement a program to award grants to eligible organizations to enhance public safety through the activities in these provisions and the grants must be used to enhance public safety by purchasing public safety equipment, funding public safety programs, making infrastructure improvements, purchasing and installing street lights and other lights, funding activities related to crime labs, and funding public defender programs. Grants for implementation purposes must be awarded for one year and may be extended or renewed at the department's discretion.

The bill requires the department to provide technical assistance to eligible organizations during the application process and while an organization is receiving a grant for implementation. In addition to the funds authorized for implementation, the bill authorizes \$10 million to be appropriated for implementation purposes in the fiscal years 2016 to 2021.

The bill creates the Shield Our Streets Fund within the state treasury which must consist of moneys appropriated, and any contributions, donations, gifts, grants, bequests, or other moneys made available for the purposes of these provisions. These funds must be used solely for the purposes of these provisions and must not revert back to general revenue at the end of the biennium.