

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 4 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Bonamici, Dingfelder, Whitsett, Prozanski
Nays: 0
Exc.: Boquist
Prepared By: Anna Braun, Counsel
Meeting Dates: 2/4, 3/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Broadens Attorney General authority to grant funds from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Account. Authorizes the Attorney General to make grants from any state or federal grant related to serving victims of violent crimes, property crimes and crimes involving fraud and deception.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Authorizes the Attorney General to make grants from any state or federal grant related to serving victims of violent crimes, property crimes and crimes involving fraud and deception.

BACKGROUND: The Crime Victims Services Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ) has legislative direction through past approval from the Legislative Assembly to administer ongoing federal grants, but clear statutory language does not exist to issue federal Victims Against Crime Act (VOCA) and STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funds. Crime Victims Services issues approximately 200 grant agreements issued to administer federal funds for VOCA and VAWA grants. SB 220A clarifies that the Attorney General has the authority to administer the federal grants concurrent with state grants in order to have a clear statutory reference for that authority when making grant agreements with subgrantees. The bill does not usurp DOJ's obligation to seek approval from the E-board or Legislative Assembly when applying for new federal grants as required in ORS 291.375