

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 5: Public Defense Commission Executive Branch Transition**

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To: Emergency Board  
From: Public Safety Subcommittee  
Carrier: Senator Sollman

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The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of a report on the Public Defense Commission’s transition from the judicial to the executive branch of government.

Through the passage of SB 337 during the 2023 session, the Legislature directed the transition of the Public Defense Commission to the executive branch with an operative date of January 1, 2025. The Legislature committed over \$5.5 million General Fund for the transition, of which there remains a special purpose appropriation balance of \$3.8 million for such costs.

At present, the scope and cost of the transition are indeterminate. The scope is comprised of activities that are both directly related to the transition and other activities of benefit to the agency. While the schedule has a fixed end-date, limited time remains to implement the transition plan once the plan has been completed by a vendor in July 2024. The Commission expects to make additional requests for funding from the special purpose appropriation, but the amounts are currently indeterminate.

The Commission’s next report on its transition to the executive branch will be to the Emergency Board in September 2024.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.