

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Justice General Counsel

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Public Safety Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Sollman

On February 1st, the Public Safety Subcommittee recommended acknowledging receipt of a report from the Department of Justice on the General Counsel Division.

DOJ was instructed to report to the Legislature in 2022 on a proposed pilot program detailing how the department can more effectively support state agencies that incur high legal costs and that pose heightened litigation risk to the state. The 2022 Legislature, upon receipt of the report, directed DOJ to return to the Legislature in 2023 with additional information.

DOJ's follow-up report is similar to prior reporting. DOJ continues to pursue a Lead Contact Counsel pilot program that provides general legal services to only a select few large-scale agencies and at a higher cost to those participating agencies, as opposed to offering legal services tailored to the specific needs and risks of a broad array of agencies.

The Public Safety Subcommittee recommends approval.