
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR MUSGROVE

FROM: FELICIA GAVIN

RE: SB 2562 COMMENTS

DATE: MARCH 14, 2002

In my opinion, there are no major reasons to oppose this bill. This bill was introduced by the request of DFA. The CVCP is not requesting additional funding, but rather requesting the authority to provide higher reimbursement rates to crime victims and their family members. The Crime Victim Compensation Fund is sufficient to cover the additional costs and the expected increase will not adversely impact the fund. Proposed adjustments are estimated to cost approximately \$400,000.

Costs for crime victims continue to rise annually on both a national and state level. Below are some noted high points:

- Medical costs continue to increase every year, especially prescription drugs
- Mental health counseling sessions have gone from approximately \$60/\$80 an hour to \$100/120 an hour
- The average funeral ranges from \$4,600 to \$6,130, while our maximum reimbursement is \$3,500
- Travel reimbursement rates (transportation to attend doctor appointments, mental health counseling session and/or funeral services) have gone up as recently as January 2002
- Lost wages and loss of support limits for victims and family members are under paid for those individuals earning more than \$450.00 net per week.