

HB 1183 -- COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT RESTITUTION FUND (Mayer)

This bill allows counties to establish by ordinance the County Law Enforcement Restitution Fund. The fund will receive money from court-ordered restitution. The restitution may not exceed \$275 for any charged offense. If a defendant fails to make a payment to the fund, probation may be revoked. The fund may only be used for specified law enforcement expenditures and will be supervised by a board of five trustees appointed by certain county officials. The county is prohibited from reducing any law enforcement agency's budget as a result of establishing the fund. The fund is subject to an audit.

Courts are allowed to order a defendant to enter an offender treatment program, work release program, or a community-based residential or nonresidential program.

The bill also prohibits, after September 1, 2004, the creation of any county fund designed to collect money for the payment of additional expenses incurred by the county. Any moneys received by any county fund created after September 1, 2004, must be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$0 to Unknown in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.