

HB 197 -- NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH FUND

SPONSOR: Butler

This bill creates the Neighborhood Watch Fund to which the General Assembly may appropriate moneys to provide funds for the creation or establishment of neighborhood watch organizations. The annual amount of approved disbursement from the fund cannot exceed \$10 million. The Director of the Department of Public Safety must create an application, establish procedures for the entities to follow to receive funds under the provisions of the bill, and administer the fund. The department must determine any disbursements from the fund and must give priority to areas with a high crime rate, defined as an area that is in the top 25% of all counties with the highest overall crime rate according to the State Highway Patrol's Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

This bill is the same as HB 1455 (2016).