

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29838 / H0781

This legislation provides non-property-tax funding for public defense, allowing counties to reduce county property taxes by \$33 million. The bill repeals the county charity levy, repeals the county medically indigent program, and phases out the state CAT program. In addition, the State of Idaho will assume financial responsibility for public defense moving forward. The bill also includes intent language for the Legislature to identify a future alternative public defense delivery model. Lastly, the bill requires cities to use 50% of annual growth in revenue sharing to provide ongoing property tax relief.

FISCAL NOTE

For fiscal year 2023, the state will provide \$34 million in funding to counties for public defense, counties will dedicate \$11 million in revenue sharing growth to public defense, counties will reduce county property tax budgets by \$33 million, and cities will reduce city property tax budgets by an estimated \$10 million. The net ongoing property tax relief in the first year is estimated to be \$43 million.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).