

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT:**House Bill No. 1003 - Attorney General - Conference Committee Action**

	Base Budget	House Version	Conference Committee Changes	Conference Committee Version	Senate Version	Comparison to Senate
Salaries and wages	\$53,007,980	\$61,818,054	(\$486,749)	\$61,331,305	\$61,331,305	
New and vacant FTE pool		4,455,869	684,842	5,140,711	4,988,501	\$152,210
Operating expenses	17,579,264	18,503,514	(1,912,860)	16,590,654	16,564,344	26,310
Prosecution witness fees		360,056		360,056	360,056	
Capital assets	606,000	1,695,000	302,280	1,997,280	1,997,280	
Grants	3,903,440	4,013,440	(110,000)	3,903,440	3,903,440	
Litigation fees	127,500	127,500		127,500	127,500	
Human trafficking victims grants	1,110,614	1,767,514	685,000	2,452,514	2,452,514	
Forensic nurse examiners grants	252,676	254,244		254,244	254,244	
Statewide litigation funding pool		8,000,000	(3,000,000)	5,000,000	5,000,000	
Medical examinations	660,000	660,000		660,000	660,000	
Children's forensic interviews	304,560	304,560		304,560	304,560	
North Dakota Lottery	5,413,453	5,580,605	4,557	5,585,162	5,585,162	
Arrest and return of fugitives	8,500	8,500		8,500	8,500	
Gaming Commission	7,489	7,489		7,489	7,489	
Criminal justice information sharing	4,579,950	7,329,417		7,329,417	7,329,417	
Law enforcement	3,377,659	3,667,658	1,740	3,669,398	3,669,398	
Additional income		250,000		250,000	250,000	
Total all funds	\$90,939,085	\$118,803,420	(\$3,831,190)	\$114,972,230	\$114,793,710	\$178,520
Less estimated income	41,914,820	55,728,264	(3,674,970)	52,053,294	52,053,294	0
General fund	\$49,024,265	\$63,075,156	(\$156,220)	\$62,918,936	\$62,740,416	\$178,520
FTE	266.00	270.00	0.00	270.00	269.00	1.00

Department 125 - Attorney General - Detail of Conference Committee Changes

	Reduces Funding for Salary and Benefit Increases ¹	Adjusts Funding for FTE Positions ²	Adjusts Funding for 2025-27 New and Vacant FTE Pool ³	Adds Funding for Salary Equity Increases ⁴	Adjusts Funding Sources - General Fund - Other Funds ⁵	Adds Funding for Human Trafficking Victims Grants ⁶
Salaries and wages	(\$45,617)	\$34,323	(\$760,935)	\$285,480		
New and vacant FTE pool			684,842			
Operating expenses		87,140				
Prosecution witness fees						
Capital assets		302,280				
Grants						
Litigation fees						
Human trafficking victims grants						\$685,000
Forensic nurse examiners grants						
Statewide litigation funding pool						
Medical examinations						
Children's forensic interviews						
North Dakota Lottery				4,557		
Arrest and return of fugitives						
Gaming Commission						
Criminal justice information sharing						
Law enforcement				1,740		
Additional income						
Total all funds	(\$45,617)	\$423,743	(\$76,093)	\$291,777	\$0	\$685,000
Less estimated income	(27,524)	(464,480)	0	37,460	2,744,134	0
General fund	(\$18,093)	\$888,223	(\$76,093)	\$254,317	(\$2,744,134)	\$685,000
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

	Adjusts Funding for Medical Examinations and Children's Forensic Interviews ⁷	Removes Funding from Gaming Tax Revenues ⁸	Removes One- Time Funding for a Retired Law Enforcement Dogs Program ⁹	Reduces One- Time Funding for the Statewide Litigation Funding Pool ¹⁰	Total Conference Committee Changes
Salaries and wages					(\$486,749)
New and vacant FTE pool					684,842
Operating expenses		(\$2,000,000)			(1,912,860)
Prosecution witness fees					
Capital assets					302,280
Grants			(\$110,000)		(110,000)
Litigation fees					
Human trafficking victims grants					685,000
Forensic nurse examiners grants					
Statewide litigation funding pool				(\$3,000,000)	(3,000,000)
Medical examinations					
Children's forensic interviews					
North Dakota Lottery					4,557
Arrest and return of fugitives					
Gaming Commission					
Criminal justice information sharing					
Law enforcement					1,740
Additional income					
Total all funds	\$0	(\$2,000,000)	(\$110,000)	(\$3,000,000)	(\$3,831,190)
Less estimated income	(964,560)	(2,000,000)	0	(3,000,000)	(3,674,970)
General fund	\$964,560	\$0	(\$110,000)	\$0	(\$156,220)
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

¹ Funding for salary increases and health insurance increases are reduced as follows related to the removal of 3 FTE attorney positions from the base budget, the same as provided by the Senate:

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Salary increase	(\$11,788)	(\$15,814)	(\$27,602)
Health insurance increase	(6,305)	(11,710)	(18,015)
Total	(\$18,093)	(\$27,524)	(\$45,617)

² Funding for FTE positions is adjusted as follows, the same as provided by the Senate:

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Removes FTE positions from the base budget, including \$221,997 from federal funds and \$242,483 from special funds. Of the total, \$60,000 is removed for operating expenses.	(3.00)	(\$322,132)	(\$464,480)	(\$786,612)
Adds FTE Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) cybercrime agents, including \$74,000 for operating expenses, \$90,000 of ongoing funding for capital assets, and \$161,000 of one-time funding for capital assets	2.00	825,000	0	825,000
Adds a contingent FTE BCI agent for guardianships, including \$73,140 for operating expenses and \$51,280 for capital assets.	1.00	385,355	0	385,355
Total	0.00	\$888,223	(\$464,480)	\$423,743

³ Funding of \$760,935 for new FTE positions is removed and \$684,842 is added for a 2025-27 new and vacant FTE pool line item.

⁴ Adds funding for salary equity increases, including \$254,317 from the general fund, \$16,775 from federal funds, \$16,128 from the Attorney General refund fund, and \$4,557 from the lottery operating fund, the same as provided by the Senate.

⁵ Ongoing funding of \$2,744,134 in the base budget, which the House appropriated from the general fund rather than from the Attorney General refund fund, is appropriated from the Attorney General refund fund in the conference committee amendment, the same as provided by the Senate. The funding relates to prior biennium salary equity increases (\$1,790,559) and operating expenses (\$953,575).

⁶ Ongoing funding of \$685,000 is added from the general fund for human trafficking victims grants for exploitation prevention and awareness education, the same as provided by the Senate.

⁷ Funding for medical examinations (\$660,000) and children's forensic interviews (\$304,560) is appropriated from the general fund rather than the insurance regulatory trust fund to comply with provisions of Senate Bill No. 2292, which was approved by both the Senate and House. The Senate also adjusted funding for these programs.

⁸ One-time funding of \$2 million added by the House for operating and litigation expenses is removed. The conference committee also removed sections added by the House providing for a transfer of the \$2 million from the charitable gaming operating fund to the Attorney General operating fund rather than to the general fund during the 2023-25 biennium. The conference committee change will increase general fund revenues by \$2 million. The Senate also made these changes.

⁹ One-time funding of \$110,000 from the general fund added by the House for a retired law enforcement dogs program is removed. A section regarding the program added by the House is also removed. The Senate also removed these items.

¹⁰ One-time funding for the statewide litigation funding pool is reduced by \$3 million to provide a total of \$5 million from the strategic investment and improvements fund (SIIF), the same as provided by the Senate. The House provided \$8 million from SIIF.

House Bill No. 1003 - Other Changes - Conference Committee Action

This amendment also:

- Amends a section related to the new and vacant FTE pool, the same as provided by the Senate.
- Amends a section identifying \$7,466,000 appropriated in Section 1 from SIIF, the same as appropriated by the Senate. The House appropriated \$10,466,000 from SIIF.
- Amends a section identifying funding for human trafficking victim grants, the same as provided by the Senate.
- Adds a section to provide the 2 FTE BCI cybercrime agent positions and related equipment and capital assets is for assisting a police department in a city in Northeastern North Dakota with at least 50,000 residents with the prevention and detection of cybercrime, the same as provided by the Senate.
- Adds a section to identify \$239,716 appropriated in Section 1 is from the community health trust fund, which the Office of Management and Budget is required to transfer to the Attorney General operating fund for defraying the expenses related to the enforcement of the master settlement agreement and consent agreement and any disputes with the agreement.
- Removes a section added by the House identifying \$239,716 appropriated in Section 1 from a newly established electronic smoking fund for a tobacco compliance auditor position. The Senate did not remove this section.
- Removes a section added by the House to establish an electronic smoking device directory and an electronic smoking fund. The Senate amended the section to increase the statutory fee on electronic smoking devices from \$500 to \$2,000, established a \$500 annual renewal fee, and required fee collections to be deposited in the electronic smoking fund.
- Adds a section to amend Section 54-12-30 to provide district court judges and judicial referees may not waive program fees for participants of the 24/7 sobriety program, the same as included by the Senate.
- Adds a section to amend Section 54-27-25 to allow funding from the tobacco settlement trust fund transferred to the community health trust fund be used for the enforcement of the master settlement agreement and consent agreement and any disputes with the agreement.
- Adds a section to provide the Attorney General an exemption to continue any remaining funding of the \$3 million appropriated from the general fund to the Attorney General as a deficiency appropriation for the statewide litigation funding pool in House Bill No. 1024 (2025) into the 2025-27 biennium, the same as included by the Senate.

The conference committee amendment:

- Includes \$195,432 from the general fund for a FTE executive staff officer position, the same as provided by the House. The Senate removed the position and related funding.
- Does not include a section previously added by the Senate to identify \$385,355 appropriated from the general fund in Section 1 is available to the Attorney General for guardianship-related expenditures during the 2025-27 biennium, contingent on the passage of Senate Bill No. 2029. The bill has been approved by both the Senate and House, resulting in the contingency language no longer being necessary. The conference committee approved the appropriation in Section 1 of House Bill No. 1003, the same as provided by the Senate. The House did not provide funding for this purpose in House Bill No. 1003.
- Does not include a section previously added by the Senate to identify \$685,000 appropriated from the general fund in Section 1 is available to the Attorney General for human trafficking victims grants for exploitation prevention and awareness education-related expenditures during the 2025-27 biennium, contingent on the passage of Senate Bill No. 2330. The bill has been approved by both the Senate and House, resulting in the contingency language no longer being necessary. The conference committee approved the appropriation in Section 1 of House Bill No. 1003, the same as provided by the Senate. The House did not provide funding for this purpose in House Bill No. 1003.