



Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents
Department No. 188
2025 Senate Bill No. 2022

REVISED EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION
2025-27 BIENNIUM

Budget Summary

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Burgum budget recommendation	43.00	\$24,815,568	\$2,054,262	\$26,869,830
Revisions - Increase (decrease)	0.00	415,748	(2,405)	413,343
Armstrong budget recommendation	43.00	\$25,231,316	\$2,051,857	\$27,283,173
Base level	41.00	20,999,305	2,023,067	23,022,372
Increase (decrease)	2.00	\$4,232,011	\$28,790	\$4,260,801
Percentage increase (decrease)	4.9%	20.2%	1.4%	18.5%

NOTE:

More detailed information on the executive budget recommendation is attached as appendix.

Selected Highlights

- **Salary increases of up to 3 percent effective July 1, 2025, and 3 percent effective July 1, 2026**
- Health insurance increase of \$250 per month (15.2 percent), from \$1,643 to \$1,893, per employee
- Adds \$362,120 of ongoing funding from the general fund for 2 new FTE private investigator positions
- Adds \$805,000 of ongoing funding from the general fund for salary equity increases to implement a compensation strategy
- **Adds \$2 million of ongoing funding from the general fund to increase the rate paid to contract attorneys**

Deficiency Appropriations

There are no deficiency appropriations for this agency.

Significant Audit Findings

There are no significant audit findings for this agency.

Agency Fees

As reported to the Legislative Management, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-27, this agency did not have any fees.

Major Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1310 - Defendant reimbursement - Removes authorization for the court to order the defendant to reimburse indigent defense costs as a condition of probation.

Senate Bill No. 2057 - Court fees - Increases the court administration fee from \$100 to \$200, a portion of which is deposited in the indigent defense fund.

Senate Bill No. 2226 - Legal counsel - Appropriates funding to provide legal counsel services for incarcerated individuals at initial appearances.

NOTE:

Please see the Fiscal Impact Report for additional information regarding bills under consideration which contain either a state revenue impact, an appropriation, or a state fiscal impact.



Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents - Budget No. 188 Agency Worksheet - Senate Bill No. 2022

	Armstrong Executive Budget			
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2025-27 Biennium Base Level	41.00	\$20,999,305	\$2,023,067	\$23,022,372
2025-27 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Salary increase		\$377,323	\$10,765	\$388,088
Health insurance increase		252,222	6,005	258,227
Adds private investigator FTE positions	2.00	362,120		362,120
Adds funding to implement a new compensation strategy		805,000		805,000
Adds funding to increase the contract rate paid to attorneys		2,000,000		2,000,000
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 new FTE pool		137,781		137,781
Adds funding to replace the 2023-25 vacant FTE pool		253,594	7,134	260,728
Adds funding for information technology rate increases		43,971	4,886	48,857
Total ongoing funding changes	2.00	\$4,232,011	\$28,790	\$4,260,801
One-Time Funding Items				
No one-time funding items				\$0
Total one-time funding changes	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	2.00	\$4,232,011	\$28,790	\$4,260,801
2025-27 Total Funding	43.00	\$25,231,316	\$2,051,857	\$27,283,173
<i>Federal funds included in other funds</i>			\$0	

Total ongoing changes - Percentage of base level

4.9%

20.2%

1.4%

18.5%

Total changes - Percentage of base level

4.9%

20.2%

1.4%

18.5%