



FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 320

Committee: Finance and Taxation General Fund Sponsor: Representative Russell Bedsole
Analyst: Peter Grogan Date: 05/24/2023

House Bill 320 as passed the House of Representatives would rename the "Local Government Pistol Permit Revenue Loss Fund" the "Sheriffs' Advancement in Education, Technology and Training Fund" and appropriate \$7.5 million from the State General Fund (SGF) in fiscal years 2024 through 2028 to that fund. This would increase the obligations of the SGF by: (1) up to \$5.5 million for fiscal years 2024 through 2026; and (2) \$7.5 million for fiscal years 2027 and 2028. According to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, approximately \$655,000 in grants have been provided to the various counties from this fund, as of the first quarter of calendar year 2023.

This bill would also: 1) provide a 90-day grace period, beginning on the effective date of passage of this bill, for counties to submit delinquent required reports; 2) authorize the use of grant funds for the same purposes for which pistol permit fees were authorized as of December 31, 2022, instead of January 1, 2023 as provided by current law; 3) require grant funds to be deposited into the separately established local funds within 30 days of receipt of funds; 4) provide that such grant funds shall be allocated in the same manner as pistol permit revenues; 5) prohibit a county commission from retaining grant funds beyond what is authorized by law; and 6) provide that grant funds would be expended at the discretion of the sheriff.

Further, this bill would extend the automatic repeal date for these provisions from January 1, 2027, under current law, to January 1, 2029.