Overview

This bill shifts certain costs of a public defense from counties to the board of public defense.

Section

1 Public defender costs. Appropriates the current level of local criminal justice aid reserved for public defender expenses, 1.5 percent directly to the board of public defense. It allows any unspent funds to be carried over until expended.

2 Services other than counsel. Retains county responsibility to pay for court-approved costs other than counsel when an indigent defendant is represented by private counsel. Excludes from this section representation by a public defender appointed by the court.

-535 Conform current law to the changes made in section 1.

6 Services other than counsel. Requires that a public defender obtain payment for experts and other necessary costs from funds appropriated for that purpose to the board of public defense.

7 Severability. Prohibits enactment of any of the bill unless all of the bill is enacted.

8 Certify expenses. Requires the association of Minnesota counties and the board of public defense to certify the amount counties spent on services other than counsel.

9 Effective date. Makes sections 1 to 7 effective July 1, 2001 for cases assigned to the public defender on or after that date.