



COUNTY of VENTURA

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Sevet Johnson, PsyD
County Executive Officer

Mike Pettit
Assistant County Executive Officer

Kaye Mand
County Chief Financial Officer

Shawn Atin
Assistant County Executive
Officer/
Human Resources Director
Labor Relations

December 19, 2023

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Approval of, and Authorization for the County Executive Officer to submit the Assembly Bill (AB) 1869 & AB 177 Backfill Allocation Spending Reports for Fiscal Year 2023 (Exhibits #1-2) to the State Director of Finance, the Legislative Analyst's Office, and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, as required by AB 143 and AB 199, with the enactment of AB 1869 and AB 177.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that your Board approve of, and authorize the County Executive Officer to submit the AB 1869 & AB 177 Backfill Allocation Spending Reports for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 (Exhibits #1-2) to the State Director of Finance, the Legislative Analyst's Office, and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, as required by AB 143 and 199, with the enactment of AB 1869 and 177.

FISCAL/MANDATE IMPACT:

No additional fiscal impacts associated with this item.

DISCUSSION:

The passing of AB 1869 in July 2021 by the State Legislature eliminated 23 criminal justice fees and fines counties were authorized to impose. Subsequently, the enactment of AB 177 eliminated another 17 criminal justice fees, effective January 2022. Since a wide array of criminal justice programs and services are funded using fines and fee revenues, counties rely on those revenues to sustain critical services and programs that

benefit local communities. The loss of these revenues represents an approximate deficit of \$6.5M annually to our county.

In recognition of the fiscal impacts to local governments, the legislature approved a set aside of \$65 million annually for 5 years to partially backfill counties for lost revenues resulting from AB 1869. The legislature also approved a \$50M annual set aside to partially backfill counties for lost revenues resulting from the enactment of AB 177. Based on the methodology utilized by the State, the FY 2023 backfill allocation amounts total \$3.2M for Ventura County.

Supplemental bills, AB 143 and AB 199, outline the backfill allocations and reporting requirements for counties. One of the reporting requirements is that each County must submit reports (Exhibit #1-2) annually by January 10th to the State outlining how the FY 2023 backfill allocations were expended.

Programs within the Public Defender's Office, Probation Agency, Sheriff's Office, and CEO-Trial Courts Funding were identified as being adversely impacted by AB 1869 and AB 177. The attached exhibits reflect how the \$3.2M backfill funds were allocated to these departments in support of their programs/services. These programs experienced reduced revenues over the years, resulting in additional net cost to the General Fund. While the backfill helps offset the loss of revenues, the County continues to experience a deficit.

This letter has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office and County Counsel. If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Chrissy Ortega at (805) 654-3603.

Respectfully,



Sevet Johnson, PsyD
County Executive Officer

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 - AB 1869 Backfill Allocation Spending Report for FY 2023
- Exhibit 2 - AB 177 Backfill Allocation Spending Report for FY 2023