Department 125 - Attorney General House Bill No. 1003

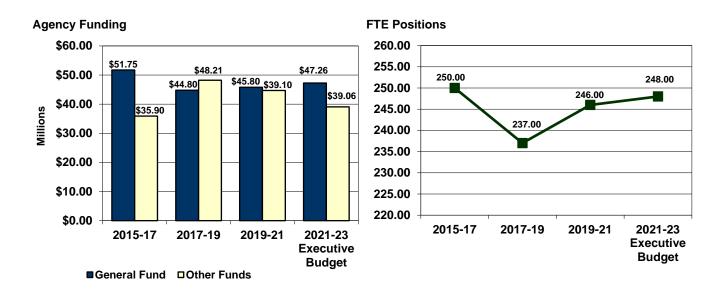
Executive Budget Comparison to Prior Biennium Appropriations

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2021-23 Executive Budget	248.00	\$47,260,701	\$39,064,406	\$86,325,107
2019-21 Legislative Appropriations ^{1, 2}	246.00	45,804,596	39,104,240	84,908,836
Increase (Decrease)	2.00	\$1,456,105	(\$39,834)	\$1,416,271

¹The 2019-21 biennium agency appropriation amounts have not been adjusted for additional federal Coronavirus (COVID-19) funds authority of \$2,082,871 resulting from Emergency Commission action during the 2019-21 biennium.

Ongoing and One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	Ongoing General Fund Appropriation	One-Time General Fund Appropriation	Total General Fund Appropriation
2021-23 Executive Budget	\$44,260,701	\$3,000,000	\$47,260,701
2019-21 Legislative Appropriations	45,604,596	200,000	45,804,596
Increase (Decrease)	(\$1,343,895)	\$2,800,000	\$1,456,105



Executive Budget Comparison to Base Level

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2021-23 Executive Budget	\$47,260,701	\$39,064,406	\$86,325,107
2021-23 Base Level	45,604,596	35,886,284	81,490,880
Increase (Decrease)	\$1,656,105	\$3,178,122	\$4,834,227

Attached as an appendix is a detailed comparison of the executive budget to the agency's base level appropriations.

Executive Budget Highlights

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Provides funding for state employee salary and benefit increases,	\$1,012,593	\$485,779	\$1,498,372

of which \$1,292,649 is for salary increases, \$11,368 is for health insurance increases, and \$194,355 is for retirement contribution increases

²Section 3 of Senate Bill No. 2015 (2019) authorized 1 assistant attorney general full-time equivalent (FTE) position to assist in litigation relating to voter identification for the 2019-21 biennium. Salaries and wages costs for the position are to be paid from funds in the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) litigation funding pool line item. Pursuant to Section 2 of the bill, funding for the litigation funding pool is considered one-time funding and is not part of OMB's base budget for the 2021-23 biennium. Accordingly, the FTE position authorized in Section 3 of the bill is considered a one-time funding item and is not part of the Attorney General's base budget for the 2021-23 biennium.

2.	Removes 1 FTE assistant attorney general position considered a one-time position to assist in litigation related to voter identification during the 2019-21 biennium	\$0	\$0	\$0
3.	Reduces funding for temporary salaries	(\$246,009)	\$0	(\$246,009)
4.	Adds funding from the Attorney General operating fund for 4 FTE gaming division positions due to electronic pull tab activity, of which \$814,863 is for salaries and wages and \$144,836 is for related operating expenses	\$0	\$959,699	\$959,699
5.	Adjusts funding for operating expenses from the general fund and Attorney General operating fund, primarily for information technology contractual services and repairs, information technology software and supplies, travel, operating fees, and rent	(\$1,489,628)	\$185,464	(\$1,304,164)
6.	Adds funding for the state agency Capitol grounds rent proposal	\$289,501	\$0	\$289,501
7.	Removes funding from the lottery fund for the Lottery Narcotics Task Force. North Dakota Century Code Section 53-12.1-09 provides for transfers totaling \$1.6 million each biennium from the lottery fund to the multijurisdictional drug task force grant fund and provides the Attorney General a continuing appropriation for this funding.	\$0	(\$755,000)	(\$755,000)
8.	Removes funding for 1 FTE assistant attorney general position for the intellectual property attorney program	(\$447,790)	\$0	(\$447,790)
9.	Reduces funding for human trafficking victims grants to provide a total of \$1,002,356 from the general fund	(\$400,000)	\$0	(\$400,000)
10.	Reduces funding for forensic nurse examiner grants to provide a total of \$213,365 from the general fund	(\$37,500)	\$0	(\$37,500)
11.	Adds one-time funding from the Attorney General refund fund for the criminal history improvement project	\$0	\$400,000	\$400,000
12.	Adds one-time funding from the Attorney General operating fund for Phases 3 and 4 of the charitable gaming technology system project, which would complete the project	\$0	\$475,000	\$475,000
13.	Adds one-time funding from federal funds to upgrade the automated biometric identification system, formerly known as the automated fingerprint identification system	\$0	\$300,000	\$300,000
14.	Adds one-time funding from federal funds for State Crime Laboratory equipment, including cameras, a rapid DNA instrument, and an intoxilyzer	\$0	\$1,111,706	\$1,111,706
15.	Adds one-time funding for a statewide litigation pool	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$3,000,000

Other Sections Recommended to be Added in the Executive Budget (As Detailed in the Attached Appendix)

Attorney General salary - Section 3 would amend Section 54-12-11 to provide for the Attorney General's annual salary to increase from \$163,394 to \$166,662 effective July 1, 2021, and \$169,995 effective July 1, 2022, to reflect the 2 percent annual recommended salary increase.

Exemption - Attorney General refund fund - Section 4 would allow the Attorney General to retain the balance in the Attorney General refund fund at the end of the 2019-21 biennium to be used during the 2021-23 biennium, rather than transferring the balance to the general fund.

Transfer - Litigation pool to state agencies - Section 5 would require the Attorney General to transfer funds from the \$3 million of one-time funding in Section 1 for a statewide litigation pool to eligible state agencies for litigation expenses during the 2021-23 biennium.

Appropriation - Additional federal funds or other funds - Section 6 would appropriate \$250,000 from federal or other funds to the Attorney General, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Attorney General for the 2021-23 biennium. The Attorney General would be required to report to OMB and the Legislative Council on the availability of this funding.

Criminal history record checks - Fees - Section 7 would require any person or entity requesting a criminal record check from the Bureau of Criminal Investigation to pay a reasonable fee as determined by the Attorney General. The funding must be deposited in the state general fund during the 2021-23 biennium.

Human trafficking victims grant program - Section 8 would identify \$1 million from the general fund in Section 1 for the purpose of providing grants to organizations involved in providing prevention and treatment services related to human trafficking victims for the 2021-23 biennium. The Attorney General would be allowed to provide grants for the development and implementation of direct care emergency or long-term crisis services, residential care, training for law enforcement, support of advocacy services, and programs promoting positive outcomes for victims. Any organization that receives a grant under this

section would be required to report to the Attorney General and the Appropriations Committees of the 68th Legislative Assembly on the use of the funds received and the outcomes of its program.

Forensic nurse examiners grant program - Section 9 would identify \$212,499 from the general fund in Section 1 for providing forensic nurse examiner program grants for community-based or hospital-based sexual assault examiner programs, for the 2021-23 biennium. Any organization that receives a grant under this section would be required to report to the Attorney General and the Appropriations Committees of the 68th Legislative Assembly on the use of the funds received and the outcomes of its programs.

Exemption - Concealed weapon rewrite project - Section 10 would allow the Attorney General to continue any remaining funding appropriated from the general fund during the 2015-17 biennium and continued into the 2017-19 and 2019-21 bienniums for a concealed weapon rewrite project into the 2021-23 biennium.

Exemption - Coronavirus emergency supplemental funding - Section 11 would allow the Attorney General to continue any federal funding received during the 2019-21 biennium in response to the COVID-19 pandemic into the 2021-23 biennium.

Continuing Appropriations

Assets forfeiture fund - Section 54-12-14 - To pay costs related to law enforcement activities of the Attorney General's office.

Lottery operating fund - Section 53-12.1-09 - To pay costs of operating the lottery.

Refund fund - Section 54-12-18 - To pay costs of the Consumer Protection and Antitrust Division and the Gaming Division.

Special operations team reimbursement fund - Section 54-12-23 - To reimburse city and county governments that provide special operations team services to rural areas.

24/7 sobriety program fund - Section 54-12-29 - To pay costs of administering and operating the 24/7 sobriety program.

Multijurisdictional drug task force fund - Section 54-12-26 - To provide support for the narcotics enforcement efforts of the state.

Deficiency Appropriation

The executive budget recommendation includes a deficiency appropriation of \$175,435 from the general fund for lawsuit expenses related to a constitutional challenge of North Dakota corporate farming laws.

Significant Audit Findings

The operational audit of the Attorney General conducted by the State Auditor's office for the period ending June 30, 2018, did not identify any findings but included two recommendations related to the State Crime Laboratory, including hiring temporary employees or re-evaluating FTE positions to reduce evidence testing turnaround time and to implement a fee schedule to strategically charge for services rendered.

Major Related Legislation

At this time, no major related legislation has been introduced affecting this agency.

Attorney General - Budget No. 125 House Bill No. 1003 Base Level Funding Changes

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2021-23 Biennium Base Level	245.00	\$45,604,596	\$35,886,284	\$81,490,880
2021-23 Ongoing Funding Changes				
Base payroll changes		\$55,536	\$87,874	\$143,410
Salary increase		876.260	416.389	1.292.649
Health insurance increase		7,650	3,718	11,368
Retirement contribution increase		128,683	65,672	194,355
Reduces funding for temporary salaries		(246,009)	55,5.2	(246,009)
Adds funding for FTE gaming division positions due to electronic pull tabs activity	4.00	(= :0,000)	959,699	959,699
Adjusts funding for operating expenses		(1,489,628)	185,464	(1,304,164)
Adds funding for technology fees, including Microsoft Office 365 license expenses		70,958	,	70,958
Adds funding for state agency Capitol grounds rent proposal		289,501		289,501
Adds funding for Bureau of Criminal Investigation service contracts and monitoring fees		114,342	80,000	194,342
Reduces funding for the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit		(12,866)	,	(12,866)
Adds funding for State Crime Laboratory bond payments		555		555
Reduces funding for capital assets			(152,400)	(152,400)
Removes funding for the Lottery Narcotics Task Force			(755,000)	(755,000)
Reduces funding for litigation fees		(22,500)	, ,	(22,500)
Removes funding for 1 FTE position for the intellectual property attorney program	(1.00)	(447,790)		(447,790)
Reduces funding for the arrest and return of fugititives	, ,	(1,500)		(1,500)
Adds funding for criminal justice information sharing projects		382,662		382,662
Reduces funding for criminal justice information sharing IT expenses		(271,889)		(271,889)
Reduces funding for law enforcement operating expenses		(340,360)		(340,360)
Reduces funding for human trafficking victims grants		(400,000)		(400,000)
Reduces funding for forensic nurse examiners grants		(37,500)		(37,500)
Total ongoing funding changes	3.00	(\$1,343,895)	\$891,416	(\$452,479)
One-time funding items				
Adds funding for the criminal history improvement project			\$400,000	\$400,000
Adds funding for the charitable gaming technology system			475,000	475,000
Adds funding for the automated biometric identification system			300,000	300,000
Adds funding for State Crime Laboratory equipment			1,111,706	1,111,706
Adds funding for a statewide litigation pool		\$3,000,000	0	3,000,000
Total one-time funding changes	0.00	\$3,000,000	\$2,286,706	\$5,286,706
5 5				
Total Changes to Base Level Funding	3.00	\$1,656,105	\$3,178,122	\$4,834,227
2021-23 Total Funding	248.00	\$47,260,701	\$39,064,406	\$86,325,107
Total ongoing changes as a percentage of base level	1.2%	(2.9%)	2.5%	(0.6%)
Total changes as a percentage of base level	1.2%	3.6%	8.9%	5.9%

Other Sections in Attorney General - Budget No. 125

Attorney General salary

Exemption - Attorney General refund fund

Transfer - Litigation pool to state agencies

Executive Budget Recommendation

Section 3 would amend Section 54-12-11 to provide for the Attorney General's annual salary to increase from \$163,394 to \$166,662 effective July 1, 2021, and \$169,995 effective July 1, 2022, to reflect the 2 percent annual recommended salary increase.

Section 4 would allow the Attorney General to retain the balance in the Attorney General refund fund at the end of the 2019-21 biennium to be used during the 2021-23 biennium, rather than transferring the balance to the general fund.

Section 5 would require the Attorney General to transfer funds from the \$3-million of one-time funding in Section 1 for a statewide litigation pool to eligible state agencies for litigation expenses during the 2021-23 biennium.

Other Sections in Attorney General - Budget No. 125

Appropriation - Additional federal funds or other federal funds
Criminal history record checks - Fees
Human trafficking victims grant program
Forensic nurse examiners grant program
Exemption - Concealed weapon rewrite project
Exemption - Coronavirus emergency supplemental funding

Executive Budget Recommendation

Section 6 would appropriate \$250,000 from federal or other funds to the Attorney General, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Attorney General for the 2021-23 biennium. The Attorney General would be required to report to OMB and the Legislative Council on the availability of this funding.

Section 7 would require any person or entity requesting a criminal record check from the Bureau of Criminal Investigation to pay a reasonable fee as determined by the Attorney General. The funding must be deposited in the state general fund during the 2021-23 biennium.

Section 8 would identify \$1 million from the general fund in Section 1 for the purpose of providing grants to organizations involved in providing prevention and treatment services related to human trafficking victims for the 2021-23 biennium. The Attorney General would be allowed to provide grants for the development and implementation of direct care emergency or long-term crisis services, residential care, training for law enforcement, support of advocacy services, and programs promoting positive outcomes for victims. Any organization that receives a grant under this section would be required to report to the Attorney General and the Appropriations Committees of the 68th Legislative Assembly on the use of the funds received and the outcomes of its program.

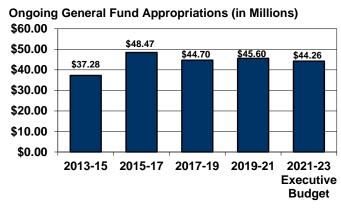
Section 9 would identify \$212,499 from the general fund in Section 1 for the purpose of providing forensic nurse examiner program grants for community-based or hospital-based sexual assault examiner programs, for the 2021-23 biennium. Any organization that receives a grant under this section would be required to report to the Attorney General and the Appropriations Committees of the 68th Legislative Assembly on the use of the funds received and the outcomes of its programs.

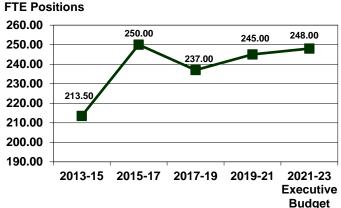
Section 10 would allow the Attorney General to continue any remaining funding appropriated from the general fund during the 2015-17 biennium and continued into the 2017-19 and 2019-21 bienniums for a concealed weapon rewrite project into the 2021-23 biennium.

Section 11 would allow the Attorney General to continue any federal funding received during the 2019-21 biennium in response to the COVID-19 pandemic into the 2021-23 biennium.

Historical Appropriations Information

Ongoing General Fund Appropriations Since 2013-15





Ongoing General Fund Appropriations						
	2013-15	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23 Executive Budget	
Ongoing general fund appropriations	\$37,275,528	\$48,466,861	\$44,695,840	\$45,604,596	\$44,260,701	
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	\$11,191,333	(\$3,771,021)	\$908,756	(\$1,343,895)	
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	30.0%	(7.8%)	2.0%	(2.9%)	
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2013-15 biennium	N/A	30.0%	19.9%	22.3%	18.7%	

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2015-17 Biennium

 Added law enforcement-related funding for 8 FTE criminal investigator positions, 3 FTE intelligence analyst positions, 2 FTE assistant attorney general positions, 1 FTE administrative position, 1 FTE grants administrator position, 1 FTE forensic scientist position, and 0.5 FTE attorney position 	\$3,724,698
2. Added 2 FTE criminal history identification technician positions	\$310,536
3. Added 1 FTE gaming auditor position	\$82,907
 Added funding for transfer of the criminal justice information sharing system, including 3 FTE positions transferred and 1 FTE new business analyst position and related operating expenses 	\$3,270,219
Restored 1 FTE programmer analyst position identified as one-time funding for the 2013-15 biennium	\$142,278
Added funding and 9 FTE positions for providing legal services to the North Dakota University System	\$3,079,724
2017-19 Biennium	
1. Removed 13 FTE undesignated positions	(\$130,782)
2. Reduced salaries and wages in anticipation of savings from vacant positions and employee turnover	(\$929,297)
3. Changed funding source for 8 FTE positions from the general fund to federal and other funds	(\$1,120,322)
4. Reduced funding for criminal justice information sharing to provide total funding of \$3,391,562	(\$188,741)
5. Reduced funding for law enforcement programs	(\$219,348)
Added funding to provide grants to organizations involved in providing prevention and treatment services related to human trafficking victims	\$125,000
2019-21 Biennium	

1. Removed 4 FTE positions, including 1 paralegal position, 1 criminal records specialist II position,

1 assistant attorney general position, and 1 administrative assistant II position

2. Added 1 FTE forensic scientist position

(\$641,089)

224,500

3. Transferred 2 FTE criminal justice information sharing positions, including \$372,555 of salaries and wages and \$9,388 of operating expenses from the Adjutant General - Department of Emergency Services to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation. The total amount transferred was \$381,943, including \$111,766 from other funds.	270,177
 Added funding for the human trafficking victims grants program to provide total funding of \$1.4 million from the general fund 	1,275,000
5. Added funding for a forensic nurse examiners grant program	250,000
2021-23 Biennium (Executive Budget Recommendation)	
Reduces funding for temporary salaries	(\$246,009)
Adjusts funding for operating expenses, primarily for information technology contractual services and repairs, information technology software and supplies, travel, operating fees, and rent	(\$1,489,628)
3. Adds funding for the state agency Capitol grounds rent proposal	\$289,501
Removes funding for 1 FTE assistant attorney general position for the intellectual property attorney program	(\$447,790)
Reduces funding for human trafficking victims grants to provide a total of \$1,002,356 from the general fund	(\$400,000)
Reduces funding for forensic nurse examiner grants to provide a total of \$213,365 from the general fund	(\$37,500)

GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AS SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SECTION 1. APPROPRIATION. The funds provided in this section, or so much of the funds as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, and from special funds derived from federal funds and other income, to the attorney general for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the attorney general, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023, as follows:

		Adjustments or	
	Base Level	Enhancements	<u>Appropriation</u>
Salaries and Wages	\$45,954,981	\$1,978,929	\$47,933,910
Operating Expenses	15,588,646	586,627	16,175,273
Capital Assets	804,380	934,841	1,739,221
Grants	4,418,440	(755,000)	3,663,440
Human Trafficking Victims Grants	1,400,000	(397,644)	1,002,356
Forensic Nurse Examiner Grants	250,000	(36,635)	213,365
Litigation Fees	150,000	(22,500)	127,500
Intellectual Property Attorney	442,085	(442,085)	0
Statewide Litigation Pool	0	3,000,000	3,000,000
Medical Examinations	660,000	0	660,000
North Dakota Lottery	5,191,454	76,036	5,267,490
Arrest and Return of Fugitives	10,000	(1,500)	8,500
Gaming Commission	7,489	0	7,489
Criminal Justice Info Sharing	3,631,121	179,381	3,810,502
Law Enforcement	2,982,284	(266,223)	2,716,061
Total All Funds	\$81,490,880	\$4,834,227	\$86,325,107
Less Estimated Income	35,886,284	<u>3,178,122</u>	39,064,406
Total General Fund	\$45,604,596	\$1,656,105	\$47,260,701
Full-time Equivalent Positions	245.00	3.00	248.00

SECTION 2. ONE-TIME FUNDING – EFFECT ON BASE BUDGET – REPORT TO SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. The following amounts reflect the one-time funding items approved by the sixty- sixth legislative assembly for the 2019-21 biennium and the 2021-23 one-time funding items included in the appropriation in section 1 of this Act:

One-Time Funding Description	2019-21	2021-23
Capital Assets	\$1,851,956	\$ 0
Undercover Vehicle Replacement	200,000	0
Criminal History Improvement Project	400,000	0
AFIS Replacement	316,000	0
Charitable Gaming Technology	400,000	0
Crime Lab Equipment	0	1,111,706
CJIS Broker Implementation	0	1,175,000
Statewide Litigation Pool	0	3,000,000
Total All Funds	\$3,167,956	\$5,286,706
Total Special Funds	<u>2,967,956</u>	2,286,706
Total General Fund	\$ 200,000	\$3,000,000

The 2021-23 one-time funding amounts are not a part of the entity's base budget for the 2023-25 biennium. The attorney general shall report to the appropriations committees of the sixty-eighth legislative assembly on the use of this one-time funding for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 54-12-11 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- **54-12-11. Salary of attorney general.** The annual salary of the attorney general is one hundred fifty-nine thousand four hundred nine dollars through June 30, 2020 one hundred sixty-six thousand six hundred sixty-two dollars through June 30, 2022, and one hundred sixty-three thousand three hundred ninety-four dollars one hundred sixty-nine thousand nine hundred ninety-five dollars thereafter.
- **SECTION 4. ATTORNEY GENERAL REFUND TRANSFER TO THE GENERAL FUND - EXEMPTION.** Notwithstanding section 54-12-18, the attorney general may retain the balance in the attorney general refund fund that would otherwise be transferred to the general fund on June 30, 2021.
- **SECTION 5. TRANSFER LITIGATION POOL TO STATE AGENCIES.** The attorney general shall transfer funds from the statewide litigation pool line item appropriated in section 1 of this Act to eligible state agencies for litigation expenses during the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023. The attorney general may not use funding from the litigation pool to pay judgments under section 32-12-04.
- **SECTION 6. ADDITIONAL INCOME APPROPRIATION REPORT.** In addition to the amounts appropriated to the attorney general in section 1 of this Act, there is appropriated from federal or other funds, the sum of \$250,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the attorney general for the purposes of defraying the expenses of the office, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023. The attorney general shall notify the office of management and budget and the legislative council of any funding made available pursuant to this section.
- **SECTION 7. CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS FEES.** Any person or entity requesting a criminal history record check from the bureau of criminal investigation, as a result of legislation enacted by the sixty-sixth legislative assembly, shall pay a reasonable fee established by the attorney general to the attorney general to be deposited in the state's general fund for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.
- **SECTION 8. HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS GRANT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS REPORTS.** The human trafficking victims grants line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$1,000,000 from the general fund for the purpose of providing grants to organizations involved in providing prevention and treatment services related to human trafficking victims for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023. The attorney general may provide grants for the development and implementation of direct care emergency or long- term crisis services, residential care, training for law enforcement, support of advocacy services, and programs promoting positive outcomes for victims. Any organization that receives a grant under this section shall report to the attorney general and the appropriations committees of the sixty-seventh legislative assembly on the use of the funds received and the outcomes of its program.
- **SECTION 9. FORENSIC NURSE EXAMINERS GRANT PROGRAM REPORTS.** The forensic nurse examiners grants line item in section 1 of this Act includes \$212,499 from the general fund for the purpose of providing forensic nurse examiner program grants for community-based or hospital-based sexual assault examiner programs, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023. Any organization that receives a grant under this section shall report to the attorney general and the appropriations committees of the sixty-seventh legislative assembly on the use of the funds received and the outcomes of its programs.
- **SECTION 10. EXEMPTION CONCEALED WEAPON REWRITE PROJECT.** The amount appropriated to the attorney general from the general fund for a concealed weapon rewrite project as contained in section 1 of chapter 37 of the 2015 Session Laws and continued into the 2017-19 and 2019-21 bienniums, is not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11. Any unexpended funds from this appropriation are available to the attorney general for the concealed weapon rewrite project, during the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.

SECTION 11. EXEMPTION - CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING. The amount appropriated to the attorney general from federal funds for coronavirus emergency supplemental funding, is not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11. Any unexpended funds from this appropriation are available to the attorney general during the biennium beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2023.