

SB 782 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response

Prepared By: Brian Nieubuert, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Increases the minimum amount of grant funds that a county may receive to fund a behavioral health deflection program from \$150,000 to \$500,000.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

During the 2024 Session, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 4002 and House Bill 5204, reintroducing potential criminal penalties for drug possession while also investing over \$200 million improving access to behavioral health services. Over \$20 million of the money invested were direct allocations for 23 counties that had indicated an intent to implement a deflection program. House Bill 4002 defined "deflection program" as "a collaborative program between law enforcement agencies and behavioral health entities that assists individuals who may have substance use disorder, another behavioral health disorder or co-occurring disorders, to create community-based pathways to treatment, recovery support services, housing, case management or other services." That measure also established a minimum grant award of \$150,000.

Senate Bill 782 increases the minimum amount of grant funds that a county may receive to fund a behavioral health deflection program from \$150,000 to \$500,000.