



SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 21.2: Use of Seized and Forfeited Property

2025-2026 General Assembly

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 21.2

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Section 21.2 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) credits seized and forfeited assets transferred to the State Highway Patrol (SHP) during the 2026-2027 fiscal year pursuant to federal law to the budget of the SHP for an increase of law enforcement resources for the SHP. However, the use of these assets for new personnel positions, new projects, acquisition of real property, repair of buildings where the repair includes structural change, and construction of or additions to buildings must first be approved by the General Assembly.

The SHP must make the following reports to the chairs of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Justice and Public Safety:

- A report upon receipt of any assets.
- A report that shall be made prior to use of the assets on their intended use and the departmental priorities on which the assets may be expended.
- A report on receipts, expenditures, encumbrances, and availability of these assets for the previous fiscal year, which must be made no later than September 1 of each year.

This section became effective July 1, 2026.

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