



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #665

### **State Patrol Overtime Costs (Transportation -- State Patrol)**

[LFB 2015-17 Budget Summary: Page 453, #2]

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#### **CURRENT LAW**

The Division of State Patrol's primary duty is the enforcement of traffic laws and commercial motor vehicle laws by conducting highway patrols and truck inspections. The State Patrol has 375 law enforcement officers classified as troopers (including ranks of trooper, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, major, and colonel), 113 who are classified as motor carrier inspectors (including ranks of inspector, sergeant, lieutenant, and captain), and the State Patrol superintendent. The Division's annual overtime salary budget of \$1,043,600 for salary and \$164,300 for fringe benefits has remained constant since 2002.

Unscheduled overtime, which is performed as needed, is frequently the result of troopers' involvement in crash response, intoxicated driver arrest, and sick leave coverage for other officers. According to the Department, in 2013-14, 75.4% of the total overtime hours worked was attributable to unscheduled activities, such as those described above. Although certain types of scheduled overtime activities are reimbursed, all unscheduled overtime is unreimbursed. Scheduled overtime, such as escorting oversized vehicles, providing traffic control services at events, and participating in federal safety initiatives, is typically reimbursed by third parties.

#### **GOVERNOR**

Provide \$1,094,900 SEG annually in 2015-17 for funding of overtime costs associated with the State Patrol's current staffing practices.

## MODIFICATION

Decrease the amount provided for State Patrol overtime costs by \$58,900 SEG annually in 2015-17.

**Explanation:** In its budget request, DOT requested funding to support 50,000 hours of overtime per year to meet the estimated demand for unreimbursed overtime. Based on the number of employees who are eligible to receive this overtime (troopers, inspectors, and sergeants, in some circumstances), this represents an average of about 2.25 hours of overtime per week. The average overtime rate of pay is equal to \$37.64 per hour (with a fringe rate equal to 19.23% of the hourly rate). Therefore, the combined, average overtime rate for salary and fringe benefits is equal to \$44.88 per hour. At this average, hourly rate, funding 50,000 hours would require \$2,243,900 annually. State Patrol's existing, combined funding for overtime salary and fringe benefits is equal to \$1,207,900 annually. This existing level of funding supports about 26,900 hours of overtime per year. Consequently, \$1,036,000 SEG annually would be needed to fund the remaining 23,100 hours, which is \$58,900 SEG annually less than the amounts in the bill.

Change to Bill	
SEG	- \$117,800

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