

I have this message from Mary Hooper re S.131:

I noticed that S.131 is being considered in House Gov Ops. I think there may be a thought that this is a pretty straight forward proposal. I've read the bill, but don't think I understand the ins and outs, as I am not reading it with the rest of the statute. Nevertheless, I wanted to flag a couple of concerns.

1. FYI--I had thought of recommending that the state not appropriate any general fund dollars to the crime victim advocates in FY18, this notion was in the context of tight money and the theory that we can not back fill federal grants. We didn't do that--but I am sure I will think of it again next year.
2. Personnel costs are \$1.8m, if we are not covering any benefits now, that number should be increased on the order of 30%--that would add about \$500,000 to their costs. The federal dollars are not going to increase, the special fund sources are not increasing at the rate of personnel costs, so the entire burden of additional costs will be on the gf.
3. Since funding for this program is principally federal we need to think about the consequence of creating more state employees who may loose their federal money.