

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 1042  
By: Talton  
Criminal Jurisprudence  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The Crime Victims Compensation Fund (CVCF) was established by the 66th Legislature to provide financial assistance and support to the victims of crime. In 1997, Senate Bill 987 authorized the legislature to appropriate funds from the CVCF to state agencies for “victim-related services”. The term has become so broad and has gone to fund so many programs not directed strictly towards crime victims that the CVCF is heading for insolvency sometime between 2008 and 2011. Prior to S.B. 987, the attorney general was the sole controller of the fund’s expenditures. The purpose of House Bill 1042 is to return control of all funds in the CVCF solely to the attorney general who will grant funds only directly to victim services. This will ensure that the fund stays solvent and the fund is used for its intended purpose.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee’s opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

House Bill 1042 specifies that the legislature may direct excess funds certified for the biennium to the attorney general from the compensation to victims of crime fund. It also directs the attorney general to use these funds for victim-related services and assistance.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2003.