



**ARIZONA STATE SENATE**  
*Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Regular Session*

**FINAL REVISED**  
FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2103

service providers; domestic violence

Purpose

Renames the *Domestic Violence Shelter Fund* the *Domestic Violence Services Fund* (Fund), and updates language relating to the administration of the Fund.

Background

The Division of Aging and Adult Services within the Department of Economic Security (DES) works with the statewide Arizona Domestic Violence Coalition, service providers and other state agencies to coordinate services to domestic violence victims. Funding is provided to these groups to assist in the delivery of services to victims and their children. Services provided through these organizations include a crisis hotline, emergency and transitional shelters, counseling, case management and other supportive services, including transportation, child care, legal advocacy and referrals to community programs (des.az.gov).

Established in 1982, the Domestic Violence Shelter Fund (Fund) consists of monies collected through various court filing fees and other fees collected from persons convicted of certain family offenses; additionally, statute allows a taxpayer to designate an amount of the individual's income tax return refund as a voluntary contribution to the Fund. Statute requires DES to: 1) consult with a statewide coalition against domestic violence to establish program priorities for the Fund; and 2) subject to legislative appropriation, expend monies in the Fund to provide financial assistance to shelters for victims of domestic violence through contracts for shelters (A.R.S. § 36-3002).

Statute outlines eligibility requirements for shelters to receive Fund monies, requiring shelters to: 1) provide crisis interventions and advocacy and support services for victims of domestic violence and their dependent children; 2) provide victims of domestic violence with information and referrals for community based services; 3) require persons employed by or volunteering services to the shelter to maintain the confidentiality of any information that would identify persons served by the shelter; and 4) meet existing licensing requirements, if any. Additionally, a shelter is prohibited from discriminating in its admissions or provision of services on the basis of race, religion, color, age, marital status, national origin or ancestry (A.R.S. § 36-3005).

If DES receives applications from more than one eligible shelter and the requests for Fund monies exceed the amount available, Fund monies are required to be allocated based on priorities established by DES and a state coalition against domestic violence. Additionally, DES is required to develop, in consultation with a state coalition against domestic violence, a

weighted methodology for allocation of funding that includes certain statutory priorities and that, at a minimum, considers the following: 1) the need for services; 2) existing services; 3) geographic location; and 4) population ratios (A.R.S. § 36-3006).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

***Domestic Violence Shelter Fund (Fund) and Eligibility***

1. Renames the *Domestic Violence Shelter Fund* the *Domestic Violence Services Fund* and updates the term throughout statute.
2. Requires DES to expend Fund monies to provide financial assistance to domestic violence service providers, instead of domestic violence shelters only.
3. Defines a *domestic violence service provider* as a facility whose primary purpose is to provide services to family or household members who are victims of domestic violence, including:
  - a) shelter for victims of domestic violence;
  - b) domestic violence victim advocacy; and
  - c) other support services for domestic violence victims.
4. Removes specific eligibility requirements for Fund monies, and instead requires domestic violence service providers to adhere to statewide service standards for domestic violence programs that are approved by DES in collaboration with a state coalition against domestic violence.
5. Prohibits a domestic violence service provider from discriminating in its admissions or provisions of services on the basis of disability, in addition to other factors outlined in statute.

***Allocation of Fund Monies***

6. Repeals provisions that allow the Community Services Program Administrator to accept and expend federal monies and private grants, gifts, contributions and devises to assist in carrying out the provisions relating to shelters for domestic violence victims.
7. Repeals provisions allowing a shelter to apply for grants to fund domestic violence shelters.
8. Removes requirements of DES in instances when requests for Fund monies exceed the amount of funds available, and removes priorities to be considered before allocating funds in these instances.

*Miscellaneous*

9. Requires the mandated annual report containing information from domestic violence service providers that received Fund monies be provided to the Secretary of State, in addition to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate President.
10. Requires a domestic violence service provider, instead of the Department of Health Services, to notify the Department of Public Safety if the domestic violence service provider receives certain information regarding personnel who possess a fingerprint clearance card.
11. Makes technical and conforming changes.
12. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

Senate Action

CFA	2/15/16	DPA/SE	9-0-0	HHS	3/9/16	DP	7-0-0
3 <sup>rd</sup> Read	2/25/16		59-0-1	3 <sup>rd</sup> Read	3/28/16		29-0-1

Signed by the Governor 4/5/16  
Chapter 94

Prepared by Senate Research  
April 7, 2016  
EM/ls