

CHAPTER 8

ATTORNEY GENERAL

8.06 Attorney for state officers, boards, or commissions; employ counsel.

8.15 Attorney general costs.

8.06 ATTORNEY FOR STATE OFFICERS, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS; EMPLOY COUNSEL.

The attorney general shall act as the attorney for all state officers and all boards or commissions created by law in all matters pertaining to their official duties. When requested by the attorney general, it shall be the duty of any county attorney of the state to appear within the county and act as attorney for any such board, commission, or officer in any court of such county. The attorney general may, upon request in writing, employ, and fix the compensation of, a special attorney for any such board, commission, or officer when, in the attorney general's judgment, the public welfare will be promoted thereby. Such special attorney's fees or salary shall be paid from the appropriation made for such board, commission, or officer. A state agency that is current with its billings from the attorney general for legal services may contract with the attorney general for additional legal and investigative services. Except as herein provided, no board, commission, or officer shall hereafter employ any attorney at the expense of the state.

Whenever the attorney general, the governor, and the chief justice of the supreme court shall certify, in writing, filed in the office of the secretary of state, that it is necessary, in the proper conduct of the legal business of the state, either civil or criminal, that the state employ additional counsel, the attorney general shall thereupon be authorized to employ such counsel and, with the governor and the chief justice, fix the additional counsel's compensation. Except as herein stated, no additional counsel shall be employed and the legal business of the state shall be performed exclusively by the attorney general and the attorney general's assistants.

History: 1991 c 345 art 1 s 42

8.15 ATTORNEY GENERAL COSTS.

The attorney general in consultation with the commissioner of finance shall assess executive branch agencies a fee for legal services rendered to them. The assessment against appropriations from other than the general fund must be the full cost of providing the services. The assessment against appropriations supported by fees must be included in the fee calculation. The assessment against appropriations from the general fund not supported by fees must be one-half of the cost of providing the services. An amount equal to the general fund receipts in the even-numbered year of the biennium is appropriated to the attorney general for each year of the succeeding biennium. All other receipts from assessments must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

The attorney general in consultation with the commissioner of finance shall assess political subdivisions fees to cover half the cost of legal services rendered to them.

History: 1991 c 345 art 1 s 43