

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Budget Committee Report

KLRD Analyst: Anderson
KLRD Summary: Vol. 2, Pg. 1051

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GBR Analysis: Vol. 2, Pg. 444

Executive Summary

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The Office of the State Fire Marshal's mission is to protect lives and property from the hazards of fire, explosion, and natural disaster, and promote prevention, educational, and investigative activities to mitigate incidents, promote life safety, and deter crimes. The agency is organized into five divisions:

- The **Administration Division** provides support services to the agency, including fiscal management, equipment and supply procurement, human resources, information technology, continuity of operations planning, and legal services.
- The **Investigation Division** employs specially trained and certified special agents, who are experts in fire origin and cause investigation, post-blast investigation of explosions, and criminal investigations related to the statutory responsibilities assigned to the State Fire Marshal.
- The **Fire Prevention Division** is responsible for upholding the Kansas Fire Prevention Code in buildings and places in which people work, live, or congregate.
- The **Industrial Safety Division** is responsible for implementing and enforcing the Kansas Boiler Safety Act and the Kansas Elevator Safety Act. Inspectors conduct inspections of all new boiler and pressure vessel installations, along with all relocated and repaired boilers.
- The **Emergency Response Division** supports a system of specially trained and equipped emergency response teams strategically located across the state to respond to complicated, high-risk incidents.

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FY 2026

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2026					
	SGF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	
Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ -	\$ 11,394,783	\$ 11,394,783	68.5	
Agency Revised Estimate	-	12,048,172	12,048,172	76.0	
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)					
Change from Agency Revised Estimate	\$ -	\$ (648,401)	\$ (648,401)	(7.5)	
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ -	\$ 11,399,771	\$ 11,399,771	68.5	
House Committees					
Transportation and Public Safety Budget Appropriations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – House Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ -	\$ 11,399,771	\$ 11,399,771	68.5	
Senate Committees					
Ways and Means [Corrections & Public Safety]	\$ -	\$ 237,457	\$ 237,457	6.5	
Ways and Means	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ 237,457	\$ 237,457	6.5	
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ -	\$ 11,637,228	\$ 11,637,228	75.0	
Legislative Approved					
Conference Committee	\$ -	\$ 87,457	\$ 87,457	1.0	
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	
Certifications	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ 87,457	\$ 87,457	1.0	
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ -	\$ 11,487,228	\$ 11,487,228	69.5	

Agency

The **agency** requests a revised estimate of \$12.0 million, all special revenue funds, in expenditures in FY 2026. The increase of \$653,389, or 5.73 percent, above the FY 2026 approved amount. The increase is predominantly attributable to four supplemental requests: introduction of an Investigation Division career progression plan (\$294,254), undertaking a statewide emergency response assessment (\$150,000), a Fire Prevention Inspector position for KSU facilities (\$116,690), and an inspector and investigator mobile device specific IT employee position (\$87,457). The remaining increase of \$4,988 is associated with cost indices increases in FY 2026.

Special Committee on the State Budget

The **Special Committee** concurs with the agency's revised estimate in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

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1. Delete \$294,254, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to not introduce an Investigation Division progressive pay plan in FY 2026.
2. Delete \$150,000, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to not undertake a statewide emergency response assessment in FY 2026.
3. Delete \$116,690, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to not add a KSU specific Fire Prevention Inspector in FY 2026.
4. Delete \$87,457, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to not add a mobile device specific IT employee in FY 2026.

House Committees

House Committee on Transportation and Public Safety Budget

The **House Budget Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the House Budget Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

House Committee of the Whole

The **House Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

Senate Committees

Senate Committee on Corrections and Public Safety

The **Senate Committee on Corrections and Public Safety** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$150,000, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to undertake a statewide emergency response assessment in FY 2026.
2. Add \$87,457, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to add a mobile device specific IT employee in FY 2026.
3. Add 5.5 FTE positions to correct the number of FTE positions at the agency in FY 2026. This is a correction for the global deletion of FTE changes by the 2025 Legislature, associated with the shift of FTE positions between the agency divisions in reorganizing.
4. Add language requiring Kansas State University to conduct building inspections in accordance with its prior Commissioned Inspector Act agreement or transfer \$150,000 in funding from Kansas State University to the Office of the State Fire Marshal for the cost of conducting building inspections in FY 2026.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The **Senate Committee** concurs with the Senate Committee on Corrections and Public Safety's recommendation in FY 2026.

Senate Committee of the Whole

The **Senate Committee of the Whole** concurs with the Senate Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

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Conference Committee

The **Conference Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$87,457, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to add a mobile device specific IT employee in FY 2026.
2. Add 5.5 FTE positions to correct the number of FTE positions at the agency in FY 2026. This is a correction for the global deletion of FTE changes by the 2025 Legislature, associated with the shift of FTE positions between the agency divisions in reorganizing.
3. Add language allowing the agency to expend up to \$250,000 towards rural fire departments for extraordinary expenses in state or federal disasters. Also, add language that the agency may expend moneys from the emergency response fund for hazardous materials or search and rescue incidents or declared disasters without prior approval, not to exceed \$50,000.

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FY 2027

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2027					
	SGF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	
FY 2026 Approved, without Reappropriations	\$ -	\$ 11,394,783	\$ 11,394,783	68.5	
Agency Request	-	12,690,917	12,690,917	76.0	
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)					
<i>Change from Agency Request</i>	\$ -	\$ (974,752)	\$ (974,752)	(7.5)	
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ -	\$ 11,716,165	\$ 11,716,165	68.5	
House Committees					
Transportation and Public Safety Budget Appropriations	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
<i>Subtotal – House Change from SBC</i>	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	-	
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ -	\$ 12,216,165	\$ 12,216,165	68.5	
Senate Committees					
Ways and Means [Corrections & Public Safety]	\$ -	\$ 585,489	\$ 585,489	6.5	
Ways and Means	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	
<i>Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC</i>	\$ -	\$ 585,489	\$ 585,489	6.5	
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ -	\$ 12,301,654	\$ 12,301,654	75.0	
Legislative Approved					
Conference Committee	\$ -	\$ 585,489	\$ 585,489	6.5	
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	
Certifications	-	54,580	54,580	-	
<i>Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC</i>	\$ -	\$ 640,069	\$ 640,069	6.5	
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ -	\$ 12,356,234	\$ 12,356,234	75.0	

Agency

The **agency** requests \$12.7 million, all from special revenue funds, in expenditures for FY 2027. This is an increase of \$1.3 million, or 11.3 percent, above the FY 2026 approved amount. The increases are predominantly associated with four enhancement requests: volunteer fire department equipment grants (\$500,000), introduction of an Investigation Division career progression plan (\$305,944), an inspector and investigator mobile device specific IT employee position (\$85,489), and a Fire Prevention Inspector position for KSU facilities (\$83,319). The remaining increase of \$35,492 is related to cost indices increases partially offset by reductions in equipment.

Special Committee on the State Budget

The **Special Committee** concurs with the agency request for FY 2027, with the following adjustments:

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1. Delete \$500,000, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to not add volunteer fire department equipment grants for FY 2027.
2. Delete \$305,944, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to not introduce an Investigation Division progressive pay plan for FY 2027.
3. Delete \$85,489, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to not add a mobile device specific IT employee in FY 2026.
4. Delete \$83,319, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to not add a KSU specific Fire Prevention Inspector in FY 2026.

House Committees

House Committee on Transportation and Public Safety Budget

The **House Budget Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027, with the following adjustment:

1. Add \$500,000, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to provide volunteer fire department equipment grants for FY 2027.

House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the House Budget Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

House Committee of the Whole

The **House Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Senate Committees

Senate Committee on Corrections and Public Safety

The **Senate Committee on Corrections and Public Safety** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$500,000, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to provide volunteer fire department equipment grants for FY 2027.
2. Add \$85,489, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to add a mobile device specific IT employee for FY 2027.
3. Add 5.5 FTE positions to correct the number of FTE positions at the agency for FY 2027. This is a correction for the global deletion of FTE changes by the 2025 Legislature, associated with the shift of FTE positions between the agency divisions in reorganizing.
4. Add language requiring Kansas State University to conduct building inspections in accordance with its prior Commissioned Inspector Act agreement or transfer \$150,000 in funding from Kansas State University to the Office of the State Fire Marshal for the cost of conducting building inspections for FY 2027.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The **Senate Committee** concurs with the Senate Committee on Corrections and Public Safety's recommendation for FY 2027.

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Senate Committee of the Whole

The **Senate Committee of the Whole** concurs with the Senate Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Conference Committee

The **Conference Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$500,000, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, to provide volunteer fire department equipment grants for FY 2027.
2. Add \$85,489, from the Fire Marshal Fee Fund, and 1.0 FTE position to add a mobile device specific IT employee for FY 2027.
3. Add 5.5 FTE positions to correct the number of FTE positions at the agency for FY 2027. This is a correction for the global deletion of FTE changes by the 2025 Legislature, associated with the shift of FTE positions between the agency divisions in reorganizing.

Legislative Approved

HB 2513 authorized the following statewide adjustment which was certified following the conclusion of the 2026 Session:

1. Add \$54,580 to implement the Executive Branch pay plan approved by the 2026 Legislature and certified by the State Finance Council for FY 2027.