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SB-1481 Claims against the state: appropriation. (2023-2024)

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Senate Bill No. 1481

CHAPTER 328

An act relating to the payment of claims against the state, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

[Approved by Governor September 20, 2024. Filed with Secretary of State September 20, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1481, Caballero. Claims against the state: appropriation.

Under existing law, if sufficient appropriations are not available for the payment of certain claims, settlements, or judgments, the Attorney General is required to report the claims, settlements, and judgments to the chairperson of either the Senate Committee on Appropriations or the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, who is then required to cause introduction of legislation appropriating the funds necessary for payment.

This bill would appropriate \$19,289,000 from the General Fund to the Attorney General, to be allocated according to a particular schedule, in order to pay claims, judgments, or settlements against the state arising from several specified actions.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: 2/3 Appropriation: yes Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. (a) The sum of nineteen million two hundred eighty-nine thousand dollars (\$19,289,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Attorney General to be allocated according to the following schedule:

- (1) The sum of sixty-three thousand dollars (\$63,000) for the payment of claims, settlements, or judgments against the state arising from *Aubin v. Bonta* (United States District Court, Northern District of California, No.21-cv-7938 NC).
- (2) The sum of thirteen million three hundred thousand dollars (\$13,300,000) for payment of claims, settlements, or judgments against the state arising from *Davis v. State of California* (San Diego County Superior Court Case No. 37-2020-00030315-CU-NP-NC).
- (3) The sum of one million six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$1,625,000) for the payment of claims, settlements, or judgments against the state arising from *Souliotes v. California Victim Compensation Board* (Los Angeles County Superior Court Case Nos. BS170608 and 21STCP03535).
- (4) The sum of two million seven hundred twenty-four thousand dollars (\$2,724,000) for the payment of claims, settlements, or judgments against the state arising from California Water Curtailment Cases (Santa Clara County Superior Court Case No. 1-

15-CV-285182; JCCP 4838). This amount shall be deposited into the State Treasurer's Special Deposit Fund. The State Controller may issue a separate warrant to eligible claimants as directed by the Department of Justice.

(5) The sum of one million five hundred seventy-seven thousand dollars (\$1,577,000) for the payment of claims, settlements, or judgments against the state arising from Welchen v. Bonta, et al. (United States District Court, Eastern District of California, No. 2:16-cv-00185-TLN-DB).

(b) Any funds appropriated in excess of the amounts actually required for the payment of these claims, settlements, or judgments shall revert to the General Fund within 45 days after final payment is made.

SEC. 2. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to pay judgment and settlement claims against the state and end hardship to claimants as quickly as possible, it is necessary for this act to take effect immediately.