

JUSTICE

Passive Review for Expenditures of Attorney General Discretionary Settlement Funds

Motion:

Move to provide that, before the Attorney General may expend settlement funds that are not committed under the terms of the settlement (discretionary settlement funds) from the Department of Justice's gifts, grants, and proceeds continuing PR appropriation, the Attorney General must submit to the Joint Committee on Finance a proposed plan for the expenditure of the funds. If the Co-chairs of the Finance Committee do not notify the Attorney General within 14 working days after the submittal that the Committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed plan, the Attorney General may expend the funds to implement the proposed plan (a 14-working day passive review process). If, within 14 working days after the submittal, the Co-chairs of the Finance Committee notify the Attorney General that the Committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the proposed plan, the Attorney General may expend funds only to implement the plan as approved by the Committee.

Posted By:
Wheeler Reports, Inc.

Note:

Attorney General discretionary settlement revenues are settlement funds that, as a result of certain litigation (most commonly cases involving consumer protection laws), are received by DOJ and may be utilized at the discretion of the Attorney General. In certain circumstances, the terms of the court's ruling or the state's settlement agreement requires that discretionary settlement funds be utilized for specific purposes, such as consumer protection purposes. In other instances, these funds may be expended for any purpose permitted by state law, at the discretion of the Attorney General.

This motion requires that, before the Attorney General expends settlement funds that are not committed under the terms of the settlement, the Attorney General must submit a proposed expenditure plan for the funds to the Finance Committee. This plan would be subject to a 14-working day passive review process.