

VETO MESSAGE: Yes

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

"Gov. signs bill giving early parole to some non-violent inmates," The Times, January 21, 2020

"Murphy signs criminal justice reform bills," The Star-Ledger, January 21, 2020

Rwh/cl

P.L. 2019, CHAPTER 365, *approved January 20, 2020*
Senate, No. 3309 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT establishing a competitive grant program to fund violence
2 intervention strategies and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

- 7
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:
9 a. In New Jersey, community violence is a public health crisis
10 that disproportionately impacts underserved communities of color and
11 firearm violence specifically is a major component of that violence;
12 b. Each year, New Jersey suffers more than 1,000 interpersonal
13 shootings and, in 2016, African American and Latino men constituted
14 90 percent of the total firearm homicide victims in the State;
15 c. A few New Jersey cities suffer the vast majority of homicides
16 in this State, most of which are committed with a firearm, and in 2015,
17 more than half of the ¹**【state's】** State's¹ total homicides occurred in
18 the cities of Camden, Jersey City, Newark, Paterson, and Trenton;
19 d. This violence results in enormous trauma, lifelong health
20 impairments, immeasurable human suffering, and significant economic
21 costs;
22 e. The direct costs of firearm violence in New Jersey are over
23 \$1.2 billion per year including healthcare expenses, law enforcement
24 and criminal justice expenses, costs to employers, and lost income, and
25 when reduced quality of life attributable to pain and suffering is
26 considered, the overall economic cost of firearm violence is \$3.3
27 billion per year;
28 f. The vast majority of victims and perpetrators of violence are
29 young men of color who are at heightened risk for exposure to
30 violence because of a number of risk factors, including lack of
31 educational and economic opportunity, unaddressed mental health
32 needs, substance abuse issues, unstable housing situations, and
33 previous exposure to violence;
34 g. Research indicates that in most cities in the United States less
35 than a half percent of a given city's population is responsible for the
36 vast majority of violence and effectively intervening with this high risk

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly floor amendments adopted June 20, 2019.

²Senate amendments adopted in accordance with Governor's recommendations September 12, 2019.

1 population is essential to addressing and preventing interpersonal
2 violence;

3 h. Historically, community-based violence intervention strategies
4 have demonstrated remarkable success at reducing ¹**homicides**
5 shootings¹ and other incidents involving the use of firearms in heavily
6 impacted communities and when properly implemented and
7 consistently funded, these programs produce impressive life-saving
8 and cost-saving results in a short period of time;

9 i. Large reductions in violence have been seen in cities that
10 centrally coordinate multiple violence reduction strategies, including
11 New York City; and

12 j. Providing consistent funding and support to the evidence-based
13 violence reduction initiatives is an essential part of New Jersey's
14 comprehensive response to interpersonal firearm violence and given
15 the extremely high cost of firearm violence, public investment in these
16 solutions is very likely to generate significant savings for New Jersey
17 taxpayers.

18

19 2. The New Jersey Violence Intervention Program is
20 established in the Office of the Attorney General, in the Department
21 of Law and Public Safety. The purpose of the program is to invest
22 in effective, evidence-based violence reduction initiatives focused
23 on the highest-risk individuals in communities disproportionately
24 impacted by community violence, with a particular emphasis on
25 firearm violence.

26 Specifically, the Office of the Attorney General shall establish,
27 advertise, and administer grants through the New Jersey Violence
28 Intervention Program, conduct program evaluation to determine the
29 effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, submit and post
30 reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the
31 programs, and hold public forums to gather community input
32 regarding the programs.

33

34 3. a. The Office of the Attorney General shall award funds
35 from the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program on a
36 competitive basis to municipalities, ²not-for-profit² health agencies,
37 law enforcement agencies, and non-profit organizations that serve
38 communities with disproportionately high rates ¹and numbers¹ of
39 homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms, as
40 determined by the Office of the Attorney General. The grants shall
41 be used to:

42 (1) implement, expand, or enhance ¹**the**¹ coordination
43 between evidence-based violence reduction initiatives, such as
44 hospital-based violence intervention programs, street outreach
45 programs, and focused deterrence strategies, which have
46 demonstrated effectiveness at reducing rates of homicides and other

1 incidents involving the use of firearms ²via the provision of targeted
2 services to victims affected by crime or violence²;

3 (2) support the development and delivery of intervention-based
4 strategies by entities that ¹engage directly with those provide
5 targeted services to¹ individuals ¹identified as being in need of
6 such services, to enable person involved in or¹ ²who are victims
7 affected by crime or violence and are² at risk of ¹being victimized
8 by or¹ engaging in ¹violent acts violence ^{2,2} in order¹ to ¹avoid
9 or circumvent future acts of violence interrupt cycles of violence,
10 reinjury, and retaliation¹;

11 (3) support initiatives that primarily target a reduction of
12 violence ¹and interrupt cycles of violence in the segment of the
13 population, among individuals who ²are victims affected by crime
14 or violence and² have been¹ identified ¹through the collection and
15 analysis of objective data, as¹ having the highest risk of
16 perpetrating or being victimized ²again² by violence in the near
17 future ²based on the best available medical and public health
18 research¹²;

19 (4) ensure that a sufficient portion of the available grant funding
20 is provided to support programs directed at providing public
21 awareness, outreach, assistance or intervention services to victims
22 of firearm violence offered at community locations such as
23 hospitals where individuals may be encountered in the immediate
24 aftermath of a violent incident; and

25 (5) conduct annual assessments of the needs of communities
26 demonstrably affected by ¹interpersonal firearm¹ violence to
27 ensure program funds are used effectively.

28 b. In awarding grants, the Office of the Attorney General shall
29 prioritize ¹the following¹ applicants¹;

30 (1) a ²not-for-profit² hospital ²or a not-for-profit entity operating
31 within, on behalf of, or in partnership with a hospital² which
32 operates or is applying to operate a hospital-based or hospital-
33 linked violence intervention programs, which provides services in a
34 municipality that has a disproportionately high rate of firearm
35 violence or homicide and is designated as a Level One or Level
36 Two trauma center, under the provisions of P.L.2013, c.233
37 (C.26:2KK-1 et seq.) and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto,
38 as defined in subsection e. of this section; or

39 (2) applicants¹ operating in areas disproportionately affected by
40 ¹serious firearm¹ violence, ¹and¹ whose proposals demonstrate
41 the greatest likelihood of reducing ², through targeted services,² the
42 rate and number of homicides and other incidents involving the use
43 of firearms in the community served by the applicant ¹without
44 contributing to mass incarceration¹.

1 ~~1~~ **[The award applicants]** Applicants¹ may apply either
2 independently or jointly.

3 ~~1~~ **c.**¹ The amount of funds awarded to an applicant shall not be
4 limited to a specific amount and shall be commensurate with:

5 (1) levels of firearm violence in the community served by the
6 applicant; ~~1~~ **[and]**¹

7 (2) ~~1~~ the scope of the applicant's proposal; and

8 ~~(3)~~¹ the applicant's demonstrated need for additional resources to
9 effectively reduce the rate and numbers of homicides and other
10 incidents involving the use of firearms in the community served by
11 the applicant.

12 ~~1~~ **[c.] d.**¹ A grantee may use the grant awarded to supplement,
13 but not replace, funding that would otherwise be made available to
14 address firearm, group, and community violence in the grantee's
15 community.

16 ~~1~~ **e.** As used in this section:

17 "Hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention
18 program" means a program that is operated by a ~~2~~ not-for-profit²
19 hospital, or by a person or entity who is contracted ~~2~~ **[by the]** to²
20 operate a program within, on behalf of, or in partnership with a²
21 hospital, and which works to end cycles of violence through the
22 provision of intensive counseling, case management, and social
23 services to patients who are recovering from gunshot wounds and
24 other injuries resulting from violence.¹

25
26 4. ~~2~~ **[a.]**² Application for a grant shall be made in a manner and
27 form as determined by the Office of the Attorney General. ~~2~~ **[In]** A
28 formal Notice of Availability of Funding shall be posted prior to the
29 time for acceptance of applications. However, at a minimum, in²
30 applying for the grant, the applicant shall provide:

31 ~~2~~ **[(1)] a.**² a description of how the applicant proposes to use the
32 grant funds to implement an evidence-based violence reduction
33 initiative ~~1~~ pursuant to the provisions of this act¹;

34 ~~2~~ **[(2)] b.**² a description of how the applicant proposes to use the
35 grant funds to promote or improve coordination among agencies,
36 organizations, and any already-existing violence reduction
37 strategies or
38 programs, in order to minimize duplication of services and achieve
39 maximum impact;

40 ~~2~~ **[(3)] c.**² objective evidence indicating that the applicant's
41 proposed violence reduction initiative would likely reduce rates of
42 homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms; and

43 ~~2~~ **[(4)] d.**² clearly defined, measurable objectives for the
44 violence reduction initiative.

45 ~~2~~ **[b.]** Each applicant which is a county or municipality, including
46 a law enforcement agency, shall ~~1~~ **[include in its grant application**

1 plans to¹ distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds received
2 to either or both of the following:

3 (1) one or more non-profit¹ ~~], community-based organizations¹;~~
4 and

5 (2) a public agency or entity that is not a law enforcement
6 agency but ¹~~regards~~ includes¹ violence reduction ¹~~or prevention~~¹
7 as ¹~~part~~ a major component¹ of its mission. An award made
8 pursuant to this act may be used for the purpose of creating or
9 expanding the public agency or department.²

10

11 5. The Office of the Attorney General may use up to ¹~~five~~
12 eight¹ percent of the funds appropriated or made available, or such
13 percentage as may be authorized under program guidelines for funding
14 made available to the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program
15 through federal funding sources, for ¹~~the costs of implementation and~~
16 administration of technical assistance and for the costs of
17 implementing and administering¹ the program, including but not
18 limited to employment of dedicated grants management and
19 programmatic personnel, and annual program evaluation and analysis
20 of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives. These
21 evaluations shall be made available to the public.

22

23 6. The Office of the Attorney General shall annually hold three
24 public hearings: one hearing in each of the northern, central, and
25 southern regions of the State. The public hearings shall provide a
26 forum to receive information on how the public funds are spent,
27 testimony from grant award recipients on the effectiveness of their
28 programs and best practices, and input from the public on whether
29 the initiatives and the grant funded programs are accomplishing
30 their respective missions. Public input shall be used to assess
31 whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants
32 needs to be revised.

33

34 7. The Office of the Attorney General shall report annually to
35 the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
36 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, on the activities of the program.
37 The report shall include a listing of the grants awarded under the
38 program, descriptions of the initiatives and impact on the
39 communities served through the grants, and such other information
40 as the Attorney General deems appropriate.

41 The report shall include, but not be limited to:

42 (1) a list of all grant applicants and approved grant applicants;

43 (2) the amounts awarded to approved grant applicants;

44 (3) the amount of matching funds and types of in-kind
45 contributions provided by approved grant applicants; and

46 (4) a status report on the activities funded by an approved grant
47 applicant.

1 8. ²a.² ¹ [In addition to any moneys appropriated by the
2 Legislature, the] The¹ Office of the Attorney General may seek
3 money from the federal government, including but not limited to
4 Victims of Crime Act grants, private foundations, and any other
5 source to fund this initiative.

6 ²b. Available federal funding under the “Victims of Crime Act of
7 1984,” 42 U.S.C. s.10601 et seq., may, to the extent permitted by
8 federal law, be used to award grants for initiatives authorized under
9 this section and to promote the purposes of the New Jersey
10 Violence Intervention Program, which funding shall be in addition
11 to any other funds appropriated, contributed, awarded, or otherwise
12 provided for these purposes. The Attorney General may establish
13 or provide for such additional conditions, limitations, and
14 requirements on New Jersey Violence Intervention Program
15 applicants and grantees as he or she deems appropriate to promote
16 the purposes of this section and to ensure that any grants relying on
17 federal funding sources or participation are awarded in compliance
18 with federal law.²

19
20 9. The act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
21 following enactment.

22
23
24
25

26 Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund
27 violence reduction initiatives.

SENATE, No. 3309

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JANUARY 15, 2019

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

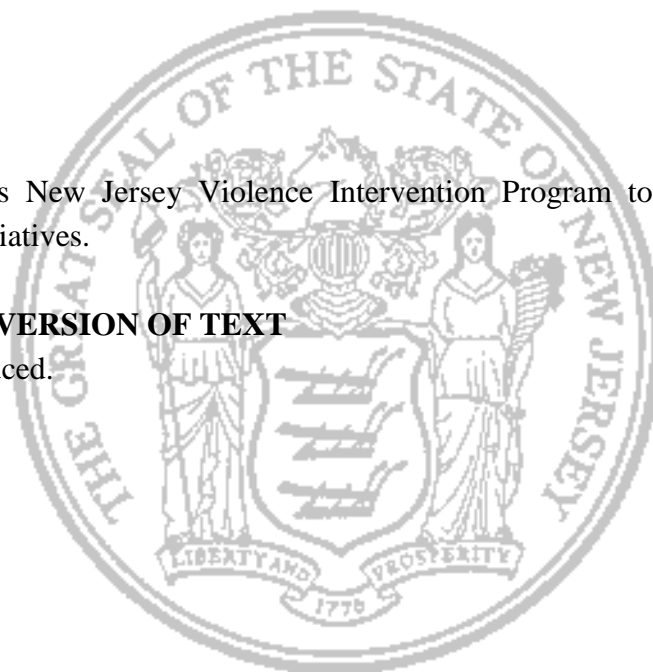
Senators Turner, Ruiz, Assemblymen Johnson, Benson, Assemblywomen Timberlake, Jones, Assemblyman Spearman, Assemblywomen Speight, Tucker, Assemblyman Holley, Assemblywomen Murphy, McKnight, Assemblyman Caputo, Assemblywomen Mosquera, Lopez, Jasey and Quijano

SYNOPSIS

Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2019)

1 AN ACT establishing a competitive grant program to fund violence
2 intervention strategies and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. In New Jersey, community violence is a public health crisis
10 that disproportionately impacts underserved communities of color
11 and firearm violence specifically is a major component of that
12 violence;

13 b. Each year, New Jersey suffers more than 1,000 interpersonal
14 shootings and, in 2016, African American and Latino men
15 constituted 90 percent of the total firearm homicide victims in the
16 State;

17 c. A few New Jersey cities suffer the vast majority of
18 homicides in this State, most of which are committed with a
19 firearm, and in 2015, more than half of the state's total homicides
20 occurred in the cities of Camden, Jersey City, Newark, Paterson,
21 and Trenton;

22 d. This violence results in enormous trauma, lifelong health
23 impairments, immeasurable human suffering, and significant
24 economic costs;

25 e. The direct costs of firearm violence in New Jersey are over
26 \$1.2 billion per year including healthcare expenses, law
27 enforcement and criminal justice expenses, costs to employers, and
28 lost income, and when reduced quality of life attributable to pain
29 and suffering is considered, the overall economic cost of firearm
30 violence is \$3.3 billion per year;

31 f. The vast majority of victims and perpetrators of violence are
32 young men of color who are at heightened risk for exposure to
33 violence because of a number of risk factors, including lack of
34 educational and economic opportunity, unaddressed mental health
35 needs, substance abuse issues, unstable housing situations, and
36 previous exposure to violence;

37 g. Research indicates that in most cities in the United States
38 less than a half percent of a given city's population is responsible
39 for the vast majority of violence and effectively intervening with
40 this high risk population is essential to addressing and preventing
41 interpersonal violence;

42 h. Historically, community-based violence intervention
43 strategies have demonstrated remarkable success at reducing
44 homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms in
45 heavily impacted communities and when properly implemented and
46 consistently funded, these programs produce impressive life-saving
47 and cost-saving results in a short period of time;

1 i. Large reductions in violence have been seen in cities that
2 centrally coordinate multiple violence reduction strategies,
3 including New York City; and

4 j. Providing consistent funding and support to the evidence-
5 based violence reduction initiatives is an essential part of New
6 Jersey's comprehensive response to interpersonal firearm violence
7 and given the extremely high cost of firearm violence, public
8 investment in these solutions is very likely to generate significant
9 savings for New Jersey taxpayers.

10

11 2. The New Jersey Violence Intervention Program is
12 established in the Office of the Attorney General, in the Department
13 of Law and Public Safety. The purpose of the program is to invest
14 in effective, evidence-based violence reduction initiatives focused
15 on the highest-risk individuals in communities disproportionately
16 impacted by community violence, with a particular emphasis on
17 firearm violence.

18 Specifically, the Office of the Attorney General shall establish,
19 advertise, and administer grants through the New Jersey Violence
20 Intervention Program, conduct program evaluation to determine the
21 effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, submit and post
22 reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the
23 programs, and hold public forums to gather community input
24 regarding the programs.

25

26 3. a. The Office of the Attorney General shall award funds
27 from the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program on a
28 competitive basis to municipalities, health agencies, law
29 enforcement agencies, and non-profit organizations that serve
30 communities with disproportionately high rates of homicides and
31 other incidents involving the use of firearms, as determined by the
32 Office of the Attorney General.

33 The grants shall be used to:

34 (1) implement, expand, or enhance the coordination between
35 evidence-based violence reduction initiatives, such as hospital-
36 based violence intervention programs, street outreach programs, and
37 focused deterrence strategies, which have demonstrated
38 effectiveness at reducing rates of homicides and other incidents
39 involving the use of firearms;

40 (2) support the development and delivery of intervention-based
41 strategies by entities that engage directly with those individuals
42 identified as being in need of such services, to enable person
43 involved in or at risk of engaging in violent acts to avoid or
44 circumvent future acts of violence;

45 (3) support initiatives that primarily target a reduction of
46 violence and interrupt cycles of violence in the segment of the
47 population, identified through the collection and analysis of

1 objective data, having the highest risk of perpetrating or being
2 victimized by violence in the near future;

3 (4) ensure that a sufficient portion of the available grant funding
4 is provided to support programs directed at providing public
5 awareness, outreach, assistance or intervention services to victims
6 of firearm violence offered at community locations such as
7 hospitals where individuals may be encountered in the immediate
8 aftermath of a violent incident; and

9 (5) conduct annual assessments of the needs of communities
10 demonstrably affected by interpersonal violence to ensure program
11 funds are used effectively.

12 b. In awarding grants, the Office of the Attorney General shall
13 prioritize applicants operating in areas disproportionately affected
14 by serious violence, whose grant proposals demonstrate the greatest
15 likelihood of reducing the rate and number of homicides and other
16 incidents involving the use of firearms in the community served by
17 the applicant. The award applicants may apply either independently
18 or jointly.

19 The amount of funds awarded to an applicant shall not be limited
20 to a specific amount and shall be commensurate with:

21 (1) levels of firearm violence in the community served by the
22 applicant; and

23 (2) the applicant's demonstrated need for additional resources to
24 effectively reduce the rate and numbers of homicides and other
25 incidents involving the use of firearms in the community served by
26 the applicant.

27 c. A grantee may use the grant awarded to supplement, but not
28 replace, funding that would otherwise be made available to address
29 firearm, group, and community violence in the grantee's
30 community.

31

32 4. a. Application for a grant shall be made in a manner and
33 form as determined by the Office of the Attorney General. In
34 applying for the grant, the applicant shall provide:

35 (1) a description of how the applicant proposes to use the grant
36 funds to implement an evidence-based violence reduction initiative;

37 (2) a description of how the applicant proposes to use the grant
38 funds to promote or improve coordination among agencies,
39 organizations, and any already-existing violence reduction
40 strategies or programs, in order to minimize duplication of services
41 and achieve maximum impact;

42 (3) objective evidence indicating that the applicant's proposed
43 violence reduction initiative would likely reduce rates of homicides
44 and other incidents involving the use of firearms; and

45 (4) clearly defined, measurable objectives for the violence
46 reduction initiative.

47 b. Each applicant which is a county or municipality, including
48 a law enforcement agency, shall include in its grant application

1 plans to distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds received to
2 either or both of the following:

- 3 (1) one or more non-profit, community-based organizations; and
4 (2) a public agency or entity that is not a law enforcement
5 agency but regards violence reduction as part of its mission. An
6 award made pursuant to this act may be used for the purpose of
7 creating or expanding the public agency or department.

8
9 5. The Office of the Attorney General may use up to five
10 percent of the funds appropriated or made available, or such
11 percentage as may be authorized under program guidelines for
12 funding made available to the New Jersey Violence Intervention
13 Program through federal funding sources, for the costs of
14 implementation and administration of the program, including but
15 not limited to employment of dedicated grants management and
16 programmatic personnel, and annual program evaluation and
17 analysis of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives.
18 These evaluations shall be made available to the public.

19
20 6. The Office of the Attorney General shall annually hold three
21 public hearings: one hearing in each of the northern, central, and
22 southern regions of the State. The public hearings shall provide a
23 forum to receive information on how the public funds are spent,
24 testimony from grant award recipients on the effectiveness of their
25 programs and best practices, and input from the public on whether
26 the initiatives and the grant funded programs are accomplishing
27 their respective missions. Public input shall be used to assess
28 whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants
29 needs to be revised.

30
31 7. The Office of the Attorney General shall report annually to
32 the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
33 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, on the activities of the program.
34 The report shall include a listing of the grants awarded under the
35 program, descriptions of the initiatives and impact on the
36 communities served through the grants, and such other information
37 as the Attorney General deems appropriate.

38 The report shall include, but not be limited to:

- 39 (1) a list of all grant applicants and approved grant applicants;
40 (2) the amounts awarded to approved grant applicants;
41 (3) the amount of matching funds and types of in-kind
42 contributions provided by approved grant applicants; and
43 (4) a status report on the activities funded by an approved grant
44 applicant.

45
46 8. In addition to any moneys appropriated by the Legislature,
47 the Office of the Attorney General may seek money from the
48 federal government, including but not limited to Victims of Crime

1 Act grants, private foundations, and any other source to fund this
2 initiative.

3

4 9. The act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
5 following enactment.

6

7

8

STATEMENT

9

10 This bill establishes the New Jersey Violence Intervention
11 Program (NJVIP) for the purpose of saving lives by investing in
12 effective, evidence-based violence reduction initiatives focused on
13 the highest-risk individuals in communities disproportionately
14 impacted by community violence, with a particular emphasis on
15 firearm violence.

16 Specifically, the bill requires the Office of the Attorney General
17 to establish, advertise, and administer grants through the NJVIP,
18 conduct program evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the
19 violence intervention programs, and provide written reports to
20 provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the programs,
21 and hold public forums to gather community input regarding the
22 programs.

23 The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to award
24 funds on a competitive basis to municipalities, health agencies, law
25 enforcement agencies, and non-profit organizations that serve
26 communities with disproportionately high rates of homicides and
27 other incidents involving the use of firearms. The bill provides that
28 the Office of the Attorney General is to prioritize applicants
29 operating in areas disproportionately affected by serious violence,
30 whose grant proposals demonstrate the greatest likelihood of
31 reducing the rate and number of homicides and other incidents
32 involving the use of firearms in the community served by the
33 applicant. The award applicants may apply either independently or
34 jointly. The bill requires that grants awarded cannot replace current
35 violence prevention funding being provided.

36 The bill requires applicants to provide certain information to
37 ensure measurable results when applying for the grant. In addition,
38 counties or municipalities, including law enforcement agencies,
39 applying for grants are required to provide plans in the grant
40 application to distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds it
41 receives, pursuant to the application, to either or both of the
42 following: (1) one or more non-profit, community-based
43 organizations and (2) a public agency or entity that is not a law
44 enforcement agency, but which has violence reduction as part of its
45 mission.

46 The bill permits the Office of the Attorney General to use up to
47 five percent of the funds appropriated or made available, or such
48 percentage as authorized if through federal funding sources, for the

1 cost of implementation, administration, and evaluation of the
2 program. The evaluations conducted are to be made publicly
3 available.

4 The bill requires that the Office of the Attorney General annually
5 hold three public hearings: one hearing in each of the northern,
6 central, and southern regions of the State. The public input are to be
7 used to assess whether the grant-making metrics and process for
8 issuing grants needs to be revised.

9 The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to provide a
10 report to the Legislature annually on the activities of the program,
11 descriptions of the initiatives and impact on communities served
12 through the grants, and any other information the Office of the
13 Attorney General deems to be appropriate.

14 It is the sponsor's intent that the bill would support community-
15 based violence reduction programs, such as Hospital-based
16 Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs), Street Outreach Work
17 (SOW), Group Violence Intervention (GVI), and focused deterrence
18 strategies, which have demonstrated effectiveness at reducing rates
19 of homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms.

20 The first example of these programs is HVIPs, which work to
21 break cycles of violence by providing intensive counseling, case
22 management, and social services to patients recovering from
23 firearm injuries, as research indicates that violently injured patients
24 are at extremely high risk of retaliating with violence or being re-
25 victimized in the near future. Evaluations of HVIP programs show
26 that patients who receive HVIP services are four times less likely to
27 be convicted of a violent crime and roughly four times less likely to
28 be violently reinjured than patients who do not receive services.

29 The next example is SOW, which is a public health-oriented
30 strategy that employs trained, culturally competent outreach
31 workers to detect and interrupt the emergence and transmission of
32 violence. Several evaluations have found this strategy to be
33 associated with significant reductions in firearm homicides and
34 assaults. In New York City, researchers found the Cure Violence
35 model of SOW to be associated with up to a 63 percent reduction in
36 shootings.

37 The final example is GVI, which is a strategy that coordinates
38 law enforcement, service providers, and the community to reduce
39 violence among a small, identifiable segment of the population that
40 is responsible for the vast majority of firearm violence in most
41 cities. Studies have found that GVI programs are associated with
42 homicide reductions of up to 60 percent.

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 3309

with Assembly Floor Amendments
(Proposed by Assemblyman GREENWALD)

ADOPTED: JUNE 20, 2019

These floor amendments:

- 1) make various technical changes;
- 2) refer to firearm violence;
- 3) define “hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention program;”
- 4) remove references to an appropriation, community-based organizations, and grant applications;
- 5) require the Office of the Attorney General to prioritize applicants whose proposals do not contribute to mass incarceration and applicants who are hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention programs;
- 6) require a public agency or entity that is not a law enforcement agency and is applying for a grant to include violence reduction or prevention as a major component of its mission;
- 7) provide that grants support initiatives that primarily target a reduction of violence among individuals who have been identified as having the highest risk of perpetrating or being victimized by violence in the near future based on the best available medical and public health research;
- 8) require the Office of the Attorney General to award funds from the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program on a competitive basis to hospitals and give first priority to certain hospitals, as provided for in the bill; and
- 9) permit the Office of the Attorney General to use up to eight percent of available funds to provide technical assistance to the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3309

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JULY 17, 2019

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.
- Type of Impact:** Annual State expenditure increase; potential annual local government expenditure and revenue increases.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Law and Public Safety; local governments.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Expenditure Increase		Indeterminate	
Potential Local Revenue Increase		Indeterminate	
Potential Local Expenditure Increase		Indeterminate	

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that the establishment of the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program (NJVIP) may increase the annual expenditures of the Department of Law and Public Safety (LPS) by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures will be comprised of administrative costs and grant awards to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations.
- The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to: establish, advertise, and administer grants made available for the NJVIP; conduct program evaluations; hold three Statewide public hearings; and provide an annual report to the Legislature on the program. The magnitude of the expenditure increase will be dependent on the administrative costs of the program, whether new personnel are hired, and the size and number of grants awarded annually.
- Municipal and county governments, including law enforcement agencies, may apply for a grant under the bill. To the extent these entities are awarded grants, their revenues and expenditures will increase by an indeterminate amount. The bill maintains that at least 50 percent of the grant funds awarded to municipalities and counties are to be distributed to non-profits or public agencies for violence reduction or prevention programs.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes the NJVIP and requires the OAG to establish, advertise, and administer grants through the NJVIP, conduct program evaluations to determine the effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, provide written reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the programs, and hold public forums to gather community input regarding the programs.

The bill requires the OAG to award funds from the NJVIP on a competitive basis to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations that serve communities with disproportionately high rates and numbers of homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms.

The bill permits the OAG to use up to 8 percent of the funds appropriated or made available for technical assistance and for the costs of implementing and administering the program, including, but not limited to, employment of dedicated grants management and programmatic personnel, annual program evaluation, and analysis of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives. These evaluations are to be made available to the public.

The bill requires that the OAG annually hold three public hearings: one hearing each in the northern, central, and southern regions of the State. The public input is to be used to assess whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants needs to be revised.

The bill requires the OAG provide a report to the Legislature annually on the activities of the program, descriptions of the initiatives, and impact on communities served through the grants.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS concludes that the establishment of the NJVIP may increase the annual expenditures of the LPS by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures will be comprised of administrative costs and grant awards to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations.

The bill requires the OAG to: establish, advertise, and administer grants; conduct program evaluations; hold three Statewide public hearings; and provide an annual report to the Legislature on the program. The magnitude of the expenditure increase will be dependent on the administrative costs of the program, whether new personnel are hired, and the size and number of grants awarded annually. The OLS notes that the bill allows that a portion of available program money may be used to hire additional staff.

Under the bill, municipal and county governments, including law enforcement agencies, may apply for grants. To the extent these entities are awarded grants, their revenues and expenditures will increase by an indeterminate amount. Each municipal or county recipient is required to distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds to one or more non-profits or to a public agency that includes violence reduction or prevention as a major component of its mission, thereby increasing annual local government expenditures.

Section: Law and Public Safety

*Analyst: Kristin Brunner Santos
Senior Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: Frank W. Haines III
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[Second Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3309

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JANUARY 14, 2020

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.
- Type of Impact:** Annual State expenditure increase; potential annual local government expenditure and revenue increases.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Law and Public Safety; local governments.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Expenditure Increase		Indeterminate	
Potential Local Revenue Increase		Indeterminate	
Potential Local Expenditure Increase		Indeterminate	

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that the establishment of the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program (NJVIP) may increase the annual expenditures of the Department of Law and Public Safety (LPS) by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures will be comprised of administrative costs and grant awards to municipalities, counties, not-for-profit health agencies, law enforcement agencies, not-for-profit hospitals, and non-profit organizations.
- The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to: establish, advertise, and administer grants made available for the NJVIP; conduct program evaluations; hold three Statewide public hearings; and provide an annual report to the Legislature on the program. The magnitude of the expenditure increase will be dependent on the administrative costs of the program, whether new personnel are hired, and the size and number of grants awarded annually.
- Municipal and county governments, including law enforcement agencies, may apply for a grant under the bill. To the extent these entities are awarded grants, their revenues and expenditures will increase by an indeterminate amount. The bill maintains that at least 50 percent of the

grant funds awarded to municipalities and counties are to be distributed to non-profits or public agencies for violence reduction or prevention programs.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes the NJVIP and requires the OAG to establish, advertise, and administer grants through the NJVIP, conduct program evaluations to determine the effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, provide written reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the programs, and hold public forums to gather community input regarding the programs.

The bill requires the OAG to award funds from the NJVIP on a competitive basis to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, not-for-profit hospitals or not-for-profit entities operating on behalf or in partnership with a hospital, and non-profit organizations that serve communities with disproportionately high rates and numbers of homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms.

The bill permits the OAG to use up to eight percent of the funds appropriated or made available for technical assistance and for the costs of implementing and administering the program, including, but not limited to, employment of dedicated grants management and programmatic personnel, annual program evaluation, and analysis of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives. These evaluations are to be made available to the public.

The bill requires that the OAG annually hold three public hearings: one hearing each in the northern, central, and southern regions of the State. The public input is to be used to assess whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants needs to be revised.

The bill requires the OAG provide a report to the Legislature annually on the activities of the program, descriptions of the initiatives, and impact on communities served through the grants.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS concludes that the establishment of the NJVIP may increase the annual expenditures of the LPS by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures will be comprised of administrative costs and grant awards to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, not-for-profit hospitals or not-for-profit entities operating on behalf or in partnership with a hospital, and non-profit organizations.

The bill requires the OAG to: establish, advertise, and administer grants; conduct program evaluations; hold three Statewide public hearings; and provide an annual report to the Legislature on the program. The magnitude of the expenditure increase will be dependent on the administrative costs of the program, whether new personnel are hired, and the size and number of grants awarded annually. The OLS notes that the bill allows that a portion of available program money may be used to hire additional staff.

Under the bill, municipal and county governments, including law enforcement agencies, may apply for grants. To the extent these entities are awarded grants, their revenues and expenditures

will increase by an indeterminate amount. Each municipal or county recipient is required to distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds to one or more non-profits or to a public agency that includes violence reduction or prevention as a major component of its mission, thereby increasing annual local government expenditures.

Section: Law and Public Safety

*Analyst: Kristin Brunner Santos
Senior Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: Frank W. Haines III
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

ASSEMBLY, No. 4801

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 10, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman LOUIS D. GREENWALD

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman ELIANA PINTOR MARIN

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Co-Sponsored by:

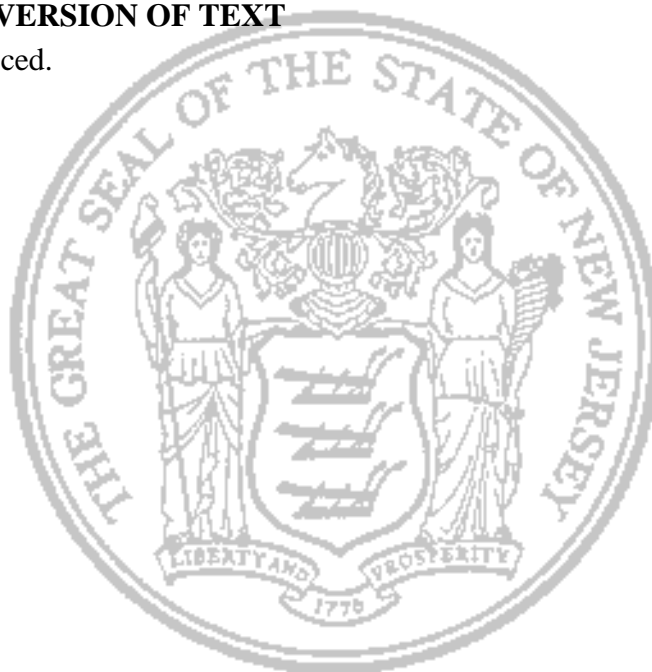
**Assemblymen Johnson, Benson, Assemblywomen Timberlake, Jones,
Assemblyman Spearman, Assemblywomen Speight and Tucker**

SYNOPSIS

Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/8/2019)

1 AN ACT establishing a competitive grant program to fund violence
2 intervention strategies and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised
3 Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. In New Jersey, community violence is a public health crisis
10 that disproportionately impacts underserved communities of color
11 and firearm violence specifically is a major component of that
12 violence;

13 b. Each year, New Jersey suffers more than 1,000 interpersonal
14 shootings and, in 2016, African American and Latino men
15 constituted 90 percent of the total firearm homicide victims in the
16 State;

17 c. A few New Jersey cities suffer the vast majority of
18 homicides in this State, most of which are committed with a
19 firearm, and in 2015, more than half of the state's total homicides
20 occurred in the cities of Camden, Jersey City, Newark, Paterson,
21 and Trenton;

22 d. This violence results in enormous trauma, lifelong health
23 impairments, immeasurable human suffering, and significant
24 economic costs;

25 e. The direct costs of firearm violence in New Jersey are over
26 \$1.2 billion per year including healthcare expenses, law
27 enforcement and criminal justice expenses, costs to employers, and
28 lost income, and when reduced quality of life attributable to pain
29 and suffering is considered, the overall economic cost of firearm
30 violence is \$3.3 billion per year;

31 f. The vast majority of victims and perpetrators of violence are
32 young men of color who are at heightened risk for exposure to
33 violence because of a number of risk factors, including lack of
34 educational and economic opportunity, unaddressed mental health
35 needs, substance abuse issues, unstable housing situations, and
36 previous exposure to violence;

37 g. Research indicates that in most cities in the United States
38 less than a half percent of a given city's population is responsible
39 for the vast majority of violence and effectively intervening with
40 this high risk population is essential to addressing and preventing
41 interpersonal violence;

42 h. Historically, community-based violence intervention
43 strategies have demonstrated remarkable success at reducing
44 homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms in
45 heavily impacted communities and when properly implemented and
46 consistently funded, these programs produce impressive life-saving
47 and cost-saving results in a short period of time;

1 i. Large reductions in violence have been seen in cities that
2 centrally coordinate multiple violence reduction strategies,
3 including New York City; and

4 j. Providing consistent funding and support to the evidence-
5 based violence reduction initiatives is an essential part of New
6 Jersey's comprehensive response to interpersonal firearm violence
7 and given the extremely high cost of firearm violence, public
8 investment in these solutions is very likely to generate significant
9 savings for New Jersey taxpayers.

10

11 2. The New Jersey Violence Intervention Program is
12 established in the Office of the Attorney General, in the Department
13 of Law and Public Safety. The purpose of the program is to invest
14 in effective, evidence-based violence reduction initiatives focused
15 on the highest-risk individuals in communities disproportionately
16 impacted by community violence, with a particular emphasis on
17 firearm violence.

18 Specifically, the Office of the Attorney General shall establish,
19 advertise, and administer grants through the New Jersey Violence
20 Intervention Program, conduct program evaluation to determine the
21 effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, submit and post
22 reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the
23 programs, and hold public forums to gather community input
24 regarding the programs.

25

26 3. a. The Office of the Attorney General shall award funds
27 from the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program on a
28 competitive basis to municipalities, health agencies, law
29 enforcement agencies, and non-profit organizations that serve
30 communities with disproportionately high rates of homicides and
31 other incidents involving the use of firearms, as determined by the
32 Office of the Attorney General.

33 The grants shall be used to:

34 (1) implement, expand, or enhance the coordination between
35 evidence-based violence reduction initiatives, such as hospital-
36 based violence intervention programs, street outreach programs, and
37 focused deterrence strategies, which have demonstrated
38 effectiveness at reducing rates of homicides and other incidents
39 involving the use of firearms;

40 (2) support the development and delivery of intervention-based
41 strategies by entities that engage directly with those individuals
42 identified as being in need of such services, to enable person
43 involved in or at risk of engaging in violent acts to avoid or
44 circumvent future acts of violence;

45 (3) support initiatives that primarily target a reduction of
46 violence and interrupt cycles of violence in the segment of the
47 population, identified through the collection and analysis of

1 objective data, having the highest risk of perpetrating or being
2 victimized by violence in the near future;

3 (4) ensure that a sufficient portion of the available grant funding
4 is provided to support programs directed at providing public
5 awareness, outreach, assistance or intervention services to victims
6 of firearm violence offered at community locations such as
7 hospitals where individuals may be encountered in the immediate
8 aftermath of a violent incident; and

9 (5) conduct annual assessments of the needs of communities
10 demonstrably affected by interpersonal violence to ensure program
11 funds are used effectively.

12 b. In awarding grants, the Office of the Attorney General shall
13 prioritize applicants operating in areas disproportionately affected
14 by serious violence, whose grant proposals demonstrate the greatest
15 likelihood of reducing the rate and number of homicides and other
16 incidents involving the use of firearms in the community served by
17 the applicant. The award applicants may apply either independently
18 or jointly.

19 The amount of funds awarded to an applicant shall not be limited
20 to a specific amount and shall be commensurate with:

21 (1) levels of firearm violence in the community served by the
22 applicant; and

23 (2) the applicant's demonstrated need for additional resources to
24 effectively reduce the rate and numbers of homicides and other
25 incidents involving the use of firearms in the community served by
26 the applicant.

27 c. A grantee may use the grant awarded to supplement, but not
28 replace, funding that would otherwise be made available to address
29 firearm, group, and community violence in the grantee's
30 community.

31

32 4. a. Application for a grant shall be made in a manner and
33 form as determined by the Office of the Attorney General. In
34 applying for the grant, the applicant shall provide:

35 (1) a description of how the applicant proposes to use the grant
36 funds to implement an evidence-based violence reduction initiative;

37 (2) a description of how the applicant proposes to use the grant
38 funds to promote or improve coordination among agencies,
39 organizations, and any already-existing violence reduction
40 strategies or programs, in order to minimize duplication of services
41 and achieve maximum impact;

42 (3) objective evidence indicating that the applicant's proposed
43 violence reduction initiative would likely reduce rates of homicides
44 and other incidents involving the use of firearms; and

45 (4) clearly defined, measurable objectives for the violence
46 reduction initiative.

47 b. Each applicant which is a county or municipality, including
48 a law enforcement agency, shall include in its grant application

1 plans to distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds received to
2 either or both of the following:

- 3 (1) one or more non-profit, community-based organizations; and
4 (2) a public agency or entity that is not a law enforcement
5 agency but regards violence reduction as part of its mission. An
6 award made pursuant to this act may be used for the purpose of
7 creating or expanding the public agency or department.

8
9 5. The Office of the Attorney General may use up to five
10 percent of the funds appropriated or made available, or such
11 percentage as may be authorized under program guidelines for
12 funding made available to the New Jersey Violence Intervention
13 Program through federal funding sources, for the costs of
14 implementation and administration of the program, including but
15 not limited to employment of dedicated grants management and
16 programmatic personnel, and annual program evaluation and
17 analysis of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives.
18 These evaluations shall be made available to the public.

19
20 6. The Office of the Attorney General shall annually hold three
21 public hearings: one hearing in each of the northern, central, and
22 southern regions of the State. The public hearings shall provide a
23 forum to receive information on how the public funds are spent,
24 testimony from grant award recipients on the effectiveness of their
25 programs and best practices, and input from the public on whether
26 the initiatives and the grant funded programs are accomplishing
27 their respective missions. Public input shall be used to assess
28 whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants
29 needs to be revised.

30
31 7. The Office of the Attorney General shall report annually to
32 the Governor and, pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164
33 (C.52:14-19.1), to the Legislature, on the activities of the program.
34 The report shall include a listing of the grants awarded under the
35 program, descriptions of the initiatives and impact on the
36 communities served through the grants, and such other information
37 as the Attorney General deems appropriate.

38 The report shall include, but not be limited to:

- 39 (1) a list of all grant applicants and approved grant applicants;
40 (2) the amounts awarded to approved grant applicants;
41 (3) the amount of matching funds and types of in-kind
42 contributions provided by approved grant applicants; and
43 (4) a status report on the activities funded by an approved grant
44 applicant.

45
46 8. In addition to any moneys appropriated by the Legislature,
47 the Office of the Attorney General may seek money from the
48 federal government, including but not limited to Victims of Crime

1 Act grants, private foundations, and any other source to fund this
2 initiative.

3

4 9. The act shall take effect on the first day of the third month
5 following enactment.

6

7

8

STATEMENT

9

10 This bill establishes the New Jersey Violence Intervention
11 Program (NJVIP) for the purpose of saving lives by investing in
12 effective, evidence-based violence reduction initiatives focused on
13 the highest-risk individuals in communities disproportionately
14 impacted by community violence, with a particular emphasis on
15 firearm violence.

16 Specifically, the bill requires the Office of the Attorney General
17 to establish, advertise, and administer grants through the NJVIP,
18 conduct program evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the
19 violence intervention programs, and provide written reports to
20 provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the programs,
21 and hold public forums to gather community input regarding the
22 programs.

23 The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to award
24 funds on a competitive basis to municipalities, health agencies, law
25 enforcement agencies, and non-profit organizations that serve
26 communities with disproportionately high rates of homicides and
27 other incidents involving the use of firearms. The bill provides that
28 the Office of the Attorney General is to prioritize applicants
29 operating in areas disproportionately affected by serious violence,
30 whose grant proposals demonstrate the greatest likelihood of
31 reducing the rate and number of homicides and other incidents
32 involving the use of firearms in the community served by the
33 applicant. The award applicants may apply either independently or
34 jointly. The bill requires that grants awarded cannot replace current
35 violence prevention funding being provided.

36 The bill requires applicants to provide certain information to
37 ensure measurable results when applying for the grant. In addition,
38 counties or municipalities, including law enforcement agencies,
39 applying for grants are required to provide plans in the grant
40 application to distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds it
41 receives, pursuant to the application, to either or both of the
42 following: (1) one or more non-profit, community-based
43 organizations and (2) a public agency or entity that is not a law
44 enforcement agency, but which has violence reduction as part of its
45 mission.

46 The bill permits the Office of the Attorney General to use up to
47 five percent of the funds appropriated or made available, or such
48 percentage as authorized if through federal funding sources, for the

1 cost of implementation, administration, and evaluation of the
2 program. The evaluations conducted are to be made publicly
3 available.

4 The bill requires that the Office of the Attorney General annually
5 hold three public hearings: one hearing in each of the northern,
6 central, and southern regions of the State. The public input are to be
7 used to assess whether the grant-making metrics and process for
8 issuing grants needs to be revised.

9 The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to provide a
10 report to the Legislature annually on the activities of the program,
11 descriptions of the initiatives and impact on communities served
12 through the grants, and any other information the Office of the
13 Attorney General deems to be appropriate.

14 It is the sponsor's intent that the bill would support community-
15 based violence reduction programs, such as Hospital-based
16 Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs), Street Outreach Work
17 (SOW), Group Violence Intervention (GVI), and focused deterrence
18 strategies, which have demonstrated effectiveness at reducing rates
19 of homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms.

20 The first example of these programs is HVIPs, which work to
21 break cycles of violence by providing intensive counseling, case
22 management, and social services to patients recovering from
23 firearm injuries, as research indicates that violently injured patients
24 are at extremely high risk of retaliating with violence or being re-
25 victimized in the near future. Evaluations of HVIP programs show
26 that patients who receive HVIP services are four times less likely to
27 be convicted of a violent crime and roughly four times less likely to
28 be violently reinjured than patients who do not receive services.

29 The next example is SOW, which is a public health-oriented
30 strategy that employs trained, culturally competent outreach
31 workers to detect and interrupt the emergence and transmission of
32 violence. Several evaluations have found this strategy to be
33 associated with significant reductions in firearm homicides and
34 assaults. In New York City, researchers found the Cure Violence
35 model of SOW to be associated with up to a 63 percent reduction in
36 shootings.

37 The final example is GVI, which is a strategy that coordinates
38 law enforcement, service providers, and the community to reduce
39 violence among a small, identifiable segment of the population that
40 is responsible for the vast majority of firearm violence in most
41 cities. Studies have found that GVI programs are associated with
42 homicide reductions of up to 60 percent.

ASSEMBLY HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4801

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 7, 2019

The Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 4801.

As amended, this bill establishes the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program (NJVIP).

Specifically, the bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to establish, advertise, and administer grants through the NJVIP, conduct program evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, and provide written reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the programs, and hold public forums to gather community input regarding the programs.

The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to award funds from the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program on a competitive basis to municipalities, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations that serve communities with disproportionately high rates and numbers of homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms, as determined by the Office of the Attorney General.

The bill provides that the Office of the Attorney General is to prioritize certain applicants, such as applicants whose proposals do not contribute to mass incarceration, and applicants who are hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention programs, which are to receive first priority, as provided for in the bill. The bill also provides for grant application guidelines.

The bill permits the Office of the Attorney General to use up to eight percent of the funds appropriated or made available, or such percentage as may be authorized under program guidelines for funding made available to the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program through federal funding sources, for technical assistance and for the costs of implementing and administering the program, including but not limited to employment of dedicated grants management and programmatic personnel, and annual program evaluation and analysis of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives. These evaluations are to be made available to the public.

The bill requires that the Office of the Attorney General annually hold three public hearings: one hearing in each of the northern,

central, and southern regions of the State. The public input are to be used to assess whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants needs to be revised.

The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to provide a report to the Legislature annually on the activities of the program, descriptions of the initiatives and impact on communities served through the grants, and any other information the Office of the Attorney General deems to be appropriate.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amendments:

- 1) make various technical changes;
- 2) refer to firearm violence;
- 3) define “hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention program;”
- 4) remove references to an appropriation, community-based organizations, and grant applications;
- 5) require the Office of the Attorney General to prioritize applicants whose proposals do not contribute to mass incarceration and applicants who are hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention programs;
- 6) require a public agency or entity that is not a law enforcement agency and is applying for a grant to include violence reduction or prevention as a major component of its mission;
- 7) provide that grants support initiatives that primarily target a reduction of violence among individuals who have been identified as having the highest risk of perpetrating or being victimized by violence in the near future based on the best available medical and public health research;
- 8) require the Office of the Attorney General to award funds from the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program on a competitive basis to hospitals and give first priority to certain hospitals, as provided for in the bill; and
- 9) permit the Office of the Attorney General to use up to eight percent of available funds to provide technical assistance to the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4801

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 13, 2019

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4801 (1R), with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill establishes the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program (NJVIP).

Specifically, the bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to establish, advertise, and administer grants through the NJVIP, conduct program evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, and provide written reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the programs, and hold public forums to gather community input regarding the programs.

The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to award funds from the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program on a competitive basis to municipalities, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations that serve communities with disproportionately high rates and numbers of homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms, as determined by the Office of the Attorney General.

The bill provides that the Office of the Attorney General is to prioritize certain applicants, such as applicants whose proposals do not contribute to mass incarceration, and applicants who are hospital-based or hospital-linked violence intervention programs. The bill also provides for grant application guidelines.

The bill permits the Office of the Attorney General to use up to eight percent of the funds appropriated or made available, or such percentage as may be authorized under program guidelines for funding made available to the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program through federal funding sources, for technical assistance and for the costs of implementing and administering the program, including but not limited to employment of dedicated grants management and programmatic personnel, and annual program evaluation and analysis of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives. These evaluations are to be made available to the public.

The bill requires that the Office of the Attorney General annually hold three public hearings: one hearing in each of the northern, central,

and southern regions of the State. The public input are to be used to assess whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants needs to be revised.

The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General to provide a report to the Legislature annually on the activities of the program, descriptions of the initiatives and impact on communities served through the grants, and any other information the Office of the Attorney General deems to be appropriate.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to eliminate the priority ranking for grant applicants

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Services concludes that the establishment of the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program may increase the annual expenditures of the Department of Law and Public Safety by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures will be comprised of indeterminate administrative costs and indeterminate grant awards to municipalities, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE

[Second Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 4801

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

DATED: JUNE 21, 2019

SUMMARY

- Synopsis:** Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.
- Type of Impact:** Annual State expenditure increase; potential annual local government expenditure and revenue increases.
- Agencies Affected:** Department of Law and Public Safety; local governments.

Office of Legislative Services Estimate

Fiscal Impact	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
State Expenditure Increase		Indeterminate	
Potential Local Revenue Increase		Indeterminate	
Potential Local Expenditure Increase		Indeterminate	

- The Office of Legislative Services (OLS) concludes that the establishment of the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program (NJVIP) may increase the annual expenditures of the Department of Law and Public Safety (LPS) by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures will be comprised of administrative costs and grant awards to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations.
- The bill requires the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) to: establish, advertise, and administer grants made available for the NJVIP; conduct program evaluations; hold three Statewide public hearings; and provide an annual report to the Legislature on the program. The magnitude of the expenditure increase will be dependent on the administrative costs of the program, whether new personnel are hired, and the size and number of grants awarded annually.
- Municipal and county governments, including law enforcement agencies, may apply for a grant under the bill. To the extent these entities are awarded grants, their revenues and expenditures will increase by an indeterminate amount. The bill maintains that at least 50 percent of the grant funds awarded to municipalities and counties are to be distributed to non-profits or public agencies for violence reduction or prevention programs.

BILL DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes the NJVIP and requires the OAG to establish, advertise, and administer grants through the NJVIP, conduct program evaluations to determine the effectiveness of the violence intervention programs, provide written reports to provide transparency regarding the effectiveness of the programs, and hold public forums to gather community input regarding the programs.

The bill requires the OAG to award funds from the NJVIP on a competitive basis to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations that serve communities with disproportionately high rates and numbers of homicides and other incidents involving the use of firearms.

The bill permits the OAG to use up to 8 percent of the funds appropriated or made available for technical assistance and for the costs of implementing and administering the program, including, but not limited to, employment of dedicated grants management and programmatic personnel, annual program evaluation, and analysis of the effectiveness of violence reduction initiatives. These evaluations are to be made available to the public.

The bill requires that the OAG annually hold three public hearings: one hearing each in the northern, central, and southern regions of the State. The public input is to be used to assess whether the grant-making metrics and process for issuing grants needs to be revised.

The bill requires the OAG provide a report to the Legislature annually on the activities of the program, descriptions of the initiatives, and impact on communities served through the grants.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

None received.

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

The OLS concludes that the establishment of the NJVIP may increase the annual expenditures of the LPS by an indeterminate amount. Expenditures will be comprised of administrative costs and grant awards to municipalities, counties, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and non-profit organizations.

The bill requires the OAG to: establish, advertise, and administer grants; conduct program evaluations; hold three Statewide public hearings; and provide an annual report to the Legislature on the program. The magnitude of the expenditure increase will be dependent on the administrative costs of the program, whether new personnel are hired, and the size and number of grants awarded annually. The OLS notes that the bill allows that a portion of available program money may be used to hire additional staff.

Under the bill, municipal and county governments, including law enforcement agencies, may apply for grants. To the extent these entities are awarded grants, their revenues and expenditures will increase by an indeterminate amount. Each municipal or county recipient is required to distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds to one or more non-profits or to a public agency

that includes violence reduction or prevention as a major component of its mission, thereby increasing annual local government expenditures.

Section: Law and Public Safety

*Analyst: Kristin Brunner Santos
Senior Fiscal Analyst*

*Approved: Frank W. Haines III
Legislative Budget and Finance Officer*

This legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67 (C.52:13B-6 et seq.).

August 23, 2019

**SENATE BILL NO. 3309
(First Reprint)**

To the Senate:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14 of the New Jersey Constitution, I am returning Senate Bill No. 3309 (First Reprint) with my recommendations for reconsideration.

I commend the Legislature for continuing to work with my Administration to address the scourge of gun violence. In fact, this bill is part of a larger gun safety package that was drafted by the Legislature in close collaboration with my Administration. Eight of these bills were sent to my desk on June 20th of this year, and I am proud that my Administration has already signed the other seven bills into law.

Violence intervention programs apply approaches that are suited to address gun violence in the hardest-hit neighborhoods. These programs identify individuals who are most at risk of being affected by gun violence and work to reduce gun violence through targeted interventions. Community-based organizations across New Jersey are already engaged in detecting and interrupting conflicts, identifying and treating high-risk individuals, and changing conflict resolution norms, with many of these organizations doing this work with little to no government support. Now the State will be able to support these community organizations that work tirelessly to stem gun violence in their cities. My Administration is committed to making New Jersey safe for all its residents, and this legislation will be instrumental in achieving that goal.

This bill creates the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program ("NJVIP"), which will provide grants to community-based nonprofit organizations, municipalities, health agencies, and law enforcement agencies in communities with disproportionately high rates of gun violence and homicides. These grants will be used to implement, enhance, or expand evidence-based violence reduction initiatives.

Our job is not done once NJVIP is established; rather we must ensure that the program is successfully implemented in order to maximize its impact. As such, both State and federal resources will be necessary to ensure NJVIP's effectiveness and viability. While I expect the Legislature to contribute to the program's funding, my Administration will also use federal Victims of Crime Act ("VOCA") Assistance grants to support NJVIP. VOCA Assistance grants are provided to states to help fund agencies and organizations that provide services to crime victims, and due to changes in the funding formula for those grants, the amount of federal money provided to New Jersey has increased substantially over the past five years. However, in spite of this increase, New Jersey has woefully underutilized VOCA Assistance grants to support violence intervention programs. Indeed, the previous administration consistently failed to channel federal resources to violence intervention programs. My Administration will not repeat this mistake. VOCA Assistance grants will be used to fund programs that we know will reduce gun violence in our communities.

As a result, it is important to ensure that the rules governing NJVIP do not violate the criteria for qualifying for VOCA Assistance grants. It would be unwise to cut off NJVIP from such an important source of funding. This means that the language in Senate Bill No. 3309 (First Reprint) must more closely align with VOCA Assistance grant eligibility criteria. To that end, my recommended changes add language that incorporates and emphasizes targeted services and clarifies that hospitals receiving NJVIP grants must be not-for-profit or use not-for-profit entities to run their violence intervention programs. Furthermore, my recommended changes will allow the Attorney General to establish any additional conditions or limitations to ensure that VOCA Assistance grant funding is awarded in compliance with federal law.

Therefore, I herewith return Senate Bill No. 3309
(First Reprint) and recommend that it be amended as follows:

- Page 3, Section 3, Line 28: After "municipalities," insert "not-for-profit"
- Page 3, Section 3, Line 38: After "firearms" insert "via the provision of targeted services to victims affected by crime or violence"
- Page 3, Section 3, Line 41: After "individuals" insert "who are victims affected by crime or violence and are"
- Page 3, Section 3, Line 43: After "violence" insert ","
- Page 4, Section 3, Line 1: After "who" insert "are victims affected by crime or violence and"
- Page 4, Section 3, Line 3: After "victimized" insert "again"
- Page 4, Section 3, Lines 3-4: Delete "based on the best available medical and public health research"
- Page 4, Section 3, Line 16: After "(1) a" insert "not-for-profit"
- Page 4, Section 3, Line 16: After "hospital" insert "or a not-for-profit entity operating within, on behalf of or in partnership with a hospital"
- Page 4, Section 3, Line 25: After "reducing" insert ", through targeted services,"
- Page 4, Section 3, Line 44: After "operated by a" insert "not for profit"
- Page 4, Section 3, Line 45: Delete "by the" and insert "to operate a program within, on behalf of, or in partnership with a"
- Page 5, Section 4, Line 4: Delete "a."
- Page 5, Section 4, Line 5: After "General." insert "A formal Notice of Availability of Funding shall be posted prior to the time for acceptance of applications. However, at a minimum, in"
- Page 5, Section 4, Line 5: Delete "In"
- Page 5, Section 4, Line 7: Delete "(1)" and insert "a."
- Page 5, Section 4, Line 10: Delete "(2)" and insert "b."
- Page 5, Section 4, Line 15: Delete "(3)" and insert "c."
- Page 5, Section 4, Line 18: Delete "(4)" and insert "d."
- Page 5, Section 4, Lines 20-30: Delete in their entirety

Page 6, Section 8, Line 23:

After "8." insert "a."

Page 6, Section 8, Line 27:

Insert "b. Available federal funding under the "Victims of Crime Act of 1984," 42 U.S.C. s.10601 et seq., may, to the extent permitted by federal law, be used to award grants for initiatives authorized under this section and to promote the purposes of the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program, which funding shall be in addition to any other funds appropriated, contributed, awarded or otherwise provided for these purposes. The Attorney General may establish or provide for such additional conditions, limitations and requirements on New Jersey Violence Intervention Program applicants and grantees as he or she deems appropriate to promote the purposes of this section and to ensure that any grants relying on federal funding sources or participation are awarded in compliance with federal law."

Respectfully,

[seal]

/s/ Philip D. Murphy

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Matthew J. Platkin

Chief Counsel to the Governor

On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Governor Murphy Signs Criminal Justice Reform Legislation

01/20/2020

ELIZABETH – On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Governor Phil Murphy today signed three pieces of legislation to reform New Jersey’s criminal justice system. The bills will streamline New Jersey’s parole system, reform requirements for civil asset forfeiture, and fund violence reduction initiatives.

“In New Jersey, we are proud to continue Martin Luther King, Jr.’s fight for justice,” **said Governor Murphy**. “We are deeply committed to ensuring fairness and justice in our criminal justice system, and today we are taking critical steps to ensure the scales of justice work equally for all New Jerseyans. I am proud to sign legislation streamlining our parole system and reforming requirements for civil asset forfeiture, two historic steps to give New Jerseyans the second chance they deserve and ensure accountability and transparency within our system. I am also proud to enact legislation that will fund gun violence prevention programs in our hardest hit-neighborhoods, helping stem the cycle of violence and rebuild communities. Today we honor MLK’s legacy not just by celebrating his achievements in the fight for equality and justice, but by continuing the difficult work he left us to do.”

S761, also known as the “Earn Your Way Out Act,” requires the Department of Corrections to develop a re-entry plan for each inmate and streamlines New Jersey’s parole system. The bill creates “administrative parole,” which will streamline the parole process by allowing certain inmates convicted of nonviolent offenses to be released on parole after a review by a hearing officer and certification for release by a member of the State Parole Board. This process will permit eligible inmates to forgo a full parole consideration hearing thereby moving them through the complicated parole process faster.

S761 also requires the Department of Corrections and the State Parole Board to coordinate reentry preparation efforts and other rehabilitative services for inmates in State correctional facilities. The Departments must engage inmates to develop and implement their individualized, comprehensive reentry plans.

The bill was sponsored by Senators Sandra Cunningham and M. Teresa Ruiz, and Assemblymembers Shavonda Sumter, Jamel Holley, Patricia Egan Jones, and Benjie Wimberly.

A4970 reforms requirements for civil asset forfeiture. Currently, an individual subject to civil asset forfeiture does not have to be found guilty in order for property and cash to be confiscated by authorities, as the current system only requires a preponderance of evidence to make a seizure. With limited exceptions, A4970 bans asset forfeiture if there are no criminal charges related to the seized asset or if the prosecution related to the seized assets ends without a conviction. The exceptions apply only when there is no known owner of the seized asset or the State proves by a preponderance of the evidence that the seized asset is cash worth more than \$1,000 or non-cash property worth more than \$10,000. This law will make it easier for individuals with dismissed or acquitted cases to recover seized money and valuables.

Today’s signing builds upon Governor Murphy’s signing last week of S1963, which will require comprehensive disclosure and transparency requirements for civil asset forfeitures.

The bill was sponsored by Assemblymembers Nicholas Chiaravalloti, Shavonda Sumter, and Nancy Pinkin, and Senators Joe Cryan, Declan O’Scanlon, and Linda Greenstein.

S3309 establishes the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program in the Office of the Attorney General to fund violence reduction initiatives. The New Jersey Violence Intervention Program will award grants to municipalities, health agencies, law enforcement agencies, and non-profit organizations that implement effective, evidence-based violence intervention initiatives in communities with disproportionately high rates of gun violence.

The bill was sponsored by Senators Joe Vitale and Linda Greenstein, and Assemblymembers Lou Greenwald, Eliana Pintor Marin, and Verlina Reynolds-Jackson.

“The bills signed by Governor Murphy today will not only ensure fairness and equity in our criminal justice system, but will also help make our communities safer,” **said Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal**. “In particular, I want to thank Governor Murphy and the legislature for recognizing the groundbreaking gun violence prevention work we are doing at the Attorney General’s office by codifying it with the ‘New Jersey Violence Intervention Program.’ With today’s legislation, we honor Dr. King by continuing to bend that long arc of the moral universe further towards justice.”

“Governor Murphy has made criminal justice reform a key objective of his since the day he took office,” **said New Jersey State Parole Board Chairman Samuel J. Plumeri, Jr.** “Such reform is also widely recognized as important—evidenced by the successful passage of the Earn Your Way Out Act. As the New Jersey State Parole Board continues to meet its dual missions of ensuring public safety and creating sustainable reentry practices and programs for offenders seeking to re-assimilate into society, our agency also welcomes fair and meaningful support that will assist these individuals as they transition out of prison and back into the community.”

“By establishing this office under the Attorney General, New Jersey can begin to harness federal funds to target communities hardest hit by violence,” **said Senator Vitale**. “Grant funding passed on to those doing the work on the ground every day will help these communities begin to heal with evidence-based prevention measures and assistance to those experiencing trauma.”

“This will help bring balance and fairness to the legal process,” **said Senator Cryan, a former Union County Sheriff**. “I want to thank all the groups and organizations that participated in making this legislation law, including the law enforcement community.”

“For too long our criminal justice system has focused on punishment, rather than rehabilitation,” **said Senator Ruiz**. “This law will place a greater focus on reentry allowing us to reduce recidivism and improve individuals ability to integrate back into their communities.”

“The majority of the more than 10,000 inmates who are released from prison each year in New Jersey will be rearrested, and two in five will return to prison. In addition to the direct impact this has on their own lives, it also affects their families, their communities and the entire state,” **said Assemblywoman Sumter**. “It’s critical that we stop this woeful pattern by making sure that these men and women have the education, job skills and other resources they need in order to be productive members of society after leaving prison.”

“For far too long, we have allowed the school-to-prison pipeline to remain intact,” **said Assemblyman Holley**. “Now, we have a law that will finally allow us to break this pipeline, and help make incarcerated New Jerseyans truly gain a second chance.”

“The Earn Your Way Out Act is supportive of second chances,” **said Assemblywoman Egan Jones**. “Preparing a pathway to reentry and providing access to needed resources is the only way to help these individuals during their next steps in life.”

“This is where our emphasis should be when it comes to reforming the system, reducing crime and shutting the revolving door on prisons,” **said Assemblyman Wimberly**. “Comprehensive and effective rehabilitation programs will restore hope, dignity, and provide former inmates the second chance they deserve to do better once released. There’s a lot more to be done; however, this is a critical step to stabilizing families, reforming a broken system that has burdened our state and society with unquantifiable costs.”

“Far too often, individuals involved in cases of this nature face the onerous task of reclaiming their property in a system that can make doing so more expensive than the property itself,” **said Assemblymembers Chiaravalloti, Sumter, and Pinkin**. “This new statute is designed to ensure that barring a criminal conviction, an owner can reclaim their property more readily and fairly.”

“We’ve seen acts of mass gun violence in two major U.S. cities, Virginia Beach and our own state capitol claim too many lives and left numerous injured,” **said Assembly Majority Leader Greenwald**. “If we’re going to address this gun violence epidemic we have to turn our attention to the violence that rarely makes the headline yet it’s impact is the same. We know that evidence-based violence intervention programs, like the one at University Hospital in Newark, can be an effective tool to combat gun violence. By investing in the New Jersey Violence Intervention Program, we can support victims and help those most at risk to break the cycles of gun violence.”

“Increasing access to services and supporting program initiatives for victims of gun violence will help those affected by it right in their own communities,” **said Assemblywoman Pintor Marin**. “Funding is a critical part of encouraging gun violence reduction initiatives throughout the state.”

“In Trenton, we understand the impact that gun violence has on a community every day. We see permanent effects of retaliatory behavior and the need to help hospitals close the revolving door of gunshot victims as a result,” **said Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson**. “The New Jersey Violence Intervention Program will help statewide and community initiatives make an impact on reducing gun violence in New Jersey.”

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

08/23/2019

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

TRENTON – Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills and resolutions into law:

A3118 (Burzichelli, Schepisi, Jasey/Bucco, Thompson) - Establishes licensure for master hearth specialists.

A4420 (Holley/Scutari) - Modifies certain fees charged by check casher licensees.

A4482 (Verrelli, Murphy, Downey/Greenstein) - Establishes "Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Violence Against Persons with Developmental Disabilities" in DHS.

A5293 (Pinkin, Zwicker, Lopez, McKeon/Smith, Bateman, Greenstein) - Makes various changes to laws governing remediation of contaminated sites.

A5390 (Tucker, Mukherji, Timberlake/Gopal, Oroho) - Provides in-State tuition at public institutions of higher education to individuals living in NJ who are entitled to educational assistance under US Department of Veterans Affairs' Vocational Rehabilitations and Employment Program.

S499 (Vitale, Madden/Downey, Houghtaling, Zwicker) - Provides for improved system for eligibility determination for Medicaid and NJ FamilyCare.

[Copy of Statement on S499](#)

S785 (Sarlo, Lagana/Calabrese, Mukherji) - Requires Police Training Commission to develop supplemental training course for certain county corrections officers.

S1014 (Rice/Wimberly, Mukherji) - Changes composition of State Employment and Training Commission.

S1126 (Bucco, Doherty, Bucco/Coughlin, Webber) - Requires public school districts to provide instruction on "New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act" as part of New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

S1403 (Diegnan, Singleton/DeAngelo, Mazzeo, Sumter) - Permits service credit transferred from another State-administered retirement system to apply toward creditable service requirement for retirement in SPRS.

S1887 (Singleton, Greenstein/DeAngelo, Wirths, Space) - Directs Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development to establish pilot program to assist certain unemployed and underemployed individuals to complete industry-valued Credentials in 12 months.

S1948 (Vitale/Quijano, Holley, Lopez) - Makes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training Provider Demonstration Project permanent and renames program.

S2507 (Singleton, Pou/Danielsen, DeCroce) - Prohibits sale or lease of access to certain dental provider network contracts.

S2538 (Singleton, Pennacchio/Kean, Murphy, DeCroce, Armato) - Makes New Jersey National Guard members with NGB-22 form eligible for certain veterans' benefits.

S2660 (Gopal, Sarlo/Downey, Houghtaling, Schaer) - Establishes grant program and tuition reimbursement program for certain teachers of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; appropriates \$5 million to DOE.

[Copy of Statement on S2660](#)

S2690 (Ruiz, Cryan, Beach, Turner, Andrzejczak/McKeon, Dancer, Land) - Prohibits pharmacy benefits managers and carriers from engaging in "clawback" and "gag clause" practices; requires certain disclosures by pharmacists; requires Director of Division of Consumer Affairs to conduct public information campaign.

S2691 (Kean, Cunningham/Quijano, Vainieri Huttle, Reynolds-Jackson) - Makes supplemental appropriation of \$100,000 to Commission on Human Trafficking.

[Copy of Statement on S2691](#)

S3100 (Weinberg, Addiego/Benson, Vainieri Huttle, Mukherji) - Revises definition of hemophilia and expands hemophilia treatment program.

SJR73 (Singleton/Murphy, Verrelli, Dancer) - Urges U.S. Congress to pass "Military Hunger Prevention Act."

Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed the following bills:

A3717 (Mukherji, Downey, Houghtaling/Greenstein, Gopal) - Prohibits pharmacy benefits managers from making certain retroactive reductions in claims payments to pharmacies; requires pharmacy benefits managers to disclose certain product information to pharmacies.

[Copy of Statement on A3717](#)

A5363 (Burzichelli, Benson, Murphy/Gopal) - Requires carriers that offer health benefits plans to provide new or existing subscribers with notification of certain hospital and health system contract expirations.

[Copy of Statement on A5363](#)

S834 (Scutari, Greenstein/Jones, Pintor Marin) - Prohibits resale of non-prescription diabetes test devices by pharmacists.

[Copy of Statement on S834](#)

S2804 (Ruiz, Turner/Lopez, McKnight, Verrelli) - Requires young children entering public schools or Head Start Programs for first time to have comprehensive eye examination completed.

[Copy of Statement on S2804](#)

S3075 (Weinberg, Ruiz/Lampitt, Mukherji, Vainieri Huttle) - Requires DOH to regulate and license embryo storage facilities.

[Copy of Statement on S3075](#)

S3309 (Vitale, Greenstein/Greenwald, Pintor Marin, Reynolds-Jackson) - Establishes New Jersey Violence Intervention Program to fund violence reduction initiatives.

[Copy of Statement on S3309](#)

S3330 (Addiego, Singleton/Jones, Vainieri Huttle, Lampitt, Murphy) - Establishes pilot program in DCF to study impact of child care services provided by community providers operating in public school facilities; requires community providers to meet certain criteria.

[Copy of Statement on S3330](#)

S3661 (Singleton, Oroho/Jasey, Wirths, Webber) - Clarifies assessment payment and election participation requirements in planned real estate developments.

[Copy of Statement on S3661](#)

Governor Murphy absolute vetoed the following bills and resolutions:

A4135 (Land, Taliaferro/Sweeney, Andrzejczak) - Concerns use of digital parking meters to monitor parking compliance; establishes fund to encourage designated drivers.

[Copy of Statement on A4135](#)

AJR158 (Houghtaling, Downey, Mosquera/Gopal) - Establishes New Jersey Task Force on Medicaid Financial

Resource Limits.

[Copy of Statement on AJR158](#)

S1364 (Andrzejczak/Land, Milam) - Provides funding from the General Fund to the Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority; appropriates \$4 million.

[Copy of Statement on S1364](#)