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Summary of Oversight Hearings in 2015 December 2015

In addition to analyzing legislation, the Senate Committee on Public Safety regularly engages in oversight activities. Generally, the Committee's oversight includes the following tools, employed as necessary and appropriate to achieve the objectives of the Committee:

- Meetings and inquiries from the Chair to the administration (agencies, departments, Governor's office);
- Site visits relating to state and local corrections, including prisons, parole, jails, probation and juvenile halls;
- Collaboration with Senate budget staff on budget and trailer bill-related issues;
- Informal meetings and inquiries with agencies, departments and the Governor's office;
- Informal meetings and policy development with experts and advocates;
- Formal, written inquiries to state departments and agencies;
- Office of the Inspector General reviews;
- Collaborative reviews with the Senate Office of Research;
- Collaboration with Senate Appointments;
- Review and analysis with the Legislative Analyst's Office;
- Legislative oversight budget and policy hearings;
- Engagement with state criminal justice bodies; and
- Collaboration with national and state criminal justice policy groups.

The summary on the following page reflects oversight hearings conducted by the Committee in 2015. In addition to these hearings, under the Chair's direction Committee staff monitored a wide range of issues relating to criminal justice, including: prison contraband policies; prison solitary confinement and gang policies; prison inmate reentry; parole review decision-making; law enforcement training; mentally ill offenders; local adult and juvenile corrections; the operations of the Board of State and Community Corrections; and criminal fines and fees.

Hearing	Issues Discussed	Legislative Action
<p>Law Enforcement and Community Trust in California (Joint hearing with Assembly Public Safety Committee): February 10, 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide and Local Data and Information Collection Relating to Policing • How a Data-Driven Approach Can Improve Police-Community Relations • Implicit Bias and Policing • Investigating and Prosecuting Allegations of Officer Misconduct in California • Building Trust and Confidence between Law Enforcement and the Communities they Serve: Promising Practices and Unresolved Challenges 	<p>A number of bills were introduced; the following notable bills were signed into law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 227 (Mitchell) – prohibits grand jury inquiries into misconduct that involves shooting or use of excessive force by a peace officer that led to the death of a detained or arrested person, as specified. • SB 411 (Lara) – protects persons who take a photograph or make an audio or video recording of a peace officer while the officer is in a public place or the person taking recording is in a place he or she has the right to be from a violation of specified offenses for obstruction of an officer, or arrest. • AB 69 (Rodriguez) – body-worn cameras. • AB 71 (Rodriguez) – requires data for when a peace officer is involved in incidents involving the shooting of a civilian by a peace officer, the shooting of a peace officer by a civilian, where use of force by a peace officer against a civilian results in serious bodily injury or death, and where use of force by a civilian against a peace officer results in serious bodily injury or death, as specified. • AB 953 (Weber) -- modifies the definition of “racial profiling, requires local law enforcement agencies to report specified information on stops to the Attorney General's office, and establishes the Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board. <p>In addition, the legislature appropriated \$6 million for a new program to support local law enforcement in their efforts to strengthen relationships with the communities they serve.</p>
<p>The New Drug Interdiction Pilot Program in California’s Prison System (Joint with Budget Sub 5): March 3, 2015</p>	<p>Drug Interdiction Policies and Practices in California prisons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer bill language required CDCR do an evaluation of the pilot and struck strip search language for public visitors. • \$6.9 million for drug treatment inside CDCR facilities
<p>Effective Inmate Education: Issues and Opportunities March 10, 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expert Discussion of Inmate Educational Programming • Implementation of SB 1391 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring of community college inmate educational programming; • \$5 million in budget for inmate education with expected foundation matching grants.
<p>Performance Metrics for Community Corrections (Joint with Senate Budget Sub 5) March 17, 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Discussion of the February 2015 Report Prepared by the Board of State and Community Corrections 	