
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

**Senator Nancy Skinner, Chair
2021 - 2022 Regular**

Bill No: SB 1418 **Hearing Date:** April 19, 2022
Author: Newman
Version: March 15, 2022
Urgency: No **Fiscal:** Yes
Consultant: SJ

Subject: *Public safety collaborative*

HISTORY

Source: Author

Prior Legislation: AB 97 (Ting), Ch. 14, Stats. 2017

Support: City of Brea; City of Buena Park; City of Fullerton; City of La Habra; City of La Palma; City of Placentia; City of Stanton; Orange County United Way

Opposition: None known

PURPOSE

The purpose of this bill is to establish the North Orange County and Central Coast Public Safety Collaboratives, as specified, and to create the Public Safety Collaborative Fund in the state treasury.

Existing law establishes the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). (Pen. Code, § 6024, subd. (a).)

Existing law requires the BSCC to do the following, among other things:

- Develop recommendations for the improvement of criminal justice and delinquency and gang prevention activity throughout the state;
- Identify, promote, and provide technical assistance relating to evidence-based programs, practices, and promising and innovative projects consistent with the mission of the board;
- Receive and disburse federal funds, and perform all necessary and appropriate services in the performance of its duties as established by federal acts;
- Develop procedures to ensure that applications for grants are processed fairly, efficiently, and in a manner consistent with the mission of the board;
- Identify delinquency and gang intervention and prevention grants that have the same or similar program purpose, are allocated to the same entities, serve the same target populations, and have the same desired outcomes for the purpose of consolidating grant funds and programs and moving toward a unified single delinquency intervention and prevention grant application process in adherence with all applicable federal guidelines and mandates;

- Cooperate with and render technical assistance to the Legislature, state agencies, local governments, or other public or private agencies, organizations, or institutions in matters relating to criminal justice and delinquency prevention;
- Develop incentives for units of local government to develop comprehensive regional partnerships whereby adjacent jurisdictions pool grant funds in order to deliver services, to a broader target population and maximize the impact of state funds at the local level;
- Conduct evaluation studies of the programs and activities assisted by the federal acts.
- Identify and evaluate state, local, and federal gang and youth violence suppression, intervention, and prevention programs and strategies, along with funding for those efforts. (Pen. Code, § 6027, subd. (b).)

This bill establishes the North Orange County Public Safety Collaborative (North Orange Collaborative) and provides that it includes the Cities of Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton, La Habra, La Palma, Orange, Placentia, Stanton, and Yorba Linda. Provides that the collaborative may add additional cities within the region if a majority of the existing participant cities approve the additional city by majority vote.

This bill requires the North Orange Collaborative to establish a coordinating and advisory board to prioritize the use of the funds. Requires membership of the board include city officials, local law enforcement, and local stakeholders.

This bill requires the funding to be used by the North Orange Collaborative for the purpose of violence prevention, intervention, and suppression activities. Provides that the funds may be utilized for a range of programs, services, and activities designed to reduce violence, and may include the following:

- Programs to address youth violence prevention and intervention in K–12 schools.
- Programs to promote and enhance the successful reentry of offenders into the community.
- Programs to address homeless outreach and intervention efforts.

This bill requires the North Orange Collaborative to distribute at least 60 percent of the funds to one or more community-based organizations to assist with violence prevention, intervention, and suppression activities.

This bill requires the North Orange Collaborative to report annually to the BSCC by June 30 each year on how these funds are being used and any relevant findings on the overall effectiveness of the collaborative. Requires the BSCC to provide this information annually to the Legislature and Governor by December 31.

This bill establishes that Central Coast Public Safety Collaborative (Central Coast Collaborative) and provides that it includes cities in the central coast region. Provides that the collaborative may add additional cities within the region if a majority of the existing participant cities approve the additional city by majority vote.

This bill requires the Central Coast Collaborative to establish a coordinating and advisory board to prioritize the use of the funds. Membership shall include city officials, local law enforcement, and local stakeholders.

This bill requires the funding to be used by the Central Coast Collaborative for the purpose of violence prevention, intervention, and suppression activities. Provides that the funds may be utilized for a range of programs, services, and activities designed to reduce violence, and may include the following:

- Programs to address youth violence prevention and intervention in K–12 schools.
- Programs to promote and enhance the successful reentry of offenders into the community.
- Programs to address homeless outreach and intervention efforts.

This bill requires the Central Coast Collaborative to distribute at least 60 percent of the funds to one or more community-based organizations to assist with violence prevention, intervention, and suppression activities.

This bill requires the Central Coast Collaborative to report annually to the BSCC by June 30 each year on how these funds are being used and any relevant findings on the overall effectiveness of the collaborative. Requires the BSCC to provide this information annually to the Legislature and Governor by December 31.

This bill establishes the Public Safety Collaborative Fund in the state treasury. Provides that the Legislature appropriates \$16,000,000 to the Fund which is available to the BSCC for the purpose of equally funding the North Orange and Central Coast Collaboratives. Provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate \$16,000,000 each year, ongoing, to the Public Safety Collaborative Fund.

This bill requires the reports to be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

COMMENTS

1. Need for This Bill

According to the author:

Leveraging the state's investments, the North Orange County Collaborative has shown significant promise in aligning and coordinating the efforts of ten local law enforcement across their shared geography, while simultaneously enlisting and funding more than 40 local community-based organizations with experience and expertise in treating the underlying causes of these complex challenges. It was originally established through the 2017-18 state budget act with an appropriation of \$20 million across its first four years. The Collaborative, which initially included six cities, was subsequently expanded to include eleven cities in Northern Orange County, after receiving an additional \$7.8 million allocation in last year's budget to fund its operation through the end of the current fiscal year.

Under the design of the collaborative model, of the overall funding provided by the state, 40% is allocated for use by law enforcement to improve and enhance their homeless and community liaison efforts, with the remaining 60% of funds distributed among community-based organizations on an RFP/grant basis to fund

specific programs deemed effective or promising at addressing the needs of a particular population. By virtue of this deliberately multi-dimensional approach, the Collaborative has become a laboratory for innovative and focused action throughout the eleven-member cities. Community-based organizations and law enforcement have stopped working in silos and instead are working in coordination to help individuals in the region.

Some examples of results and programs enabled by North OC Collaborative funding:

- Conducted the county's first Homeless Census Report by generating a by-name registry of unsheltered individuals. To date, the Collaborative has allowed more than 3,962 people to exit the streets and secure housing in the North Orange County region.
- Funded 33 targeted programs for youth that include family counseling, supportive services, tutoring, group and individual counseling, classes, and mentoring programs.
- Provided housing and other supportive services for formerly incarcerated university students through the Project Rebound Initiative, where 91% of individuals in the program achieve career-path placements within one year and where rates of recidivism have been zero.
- Created a mobile data management and referral tool called Outreach Grid, which provides North Orange County outreach staff, law enforcement officers, and community-based organizations with real-time capabilities to assess needs and make referrals for services, including instantly identifying available shelter beds for unhoused individuals and families.
- Directed funding to shelters and housing navigation centers including the Fullerton HOPE Center, a regional hub for effectively coordinating homeless services.
- The Collaborative has proven itself an innovative, regional model to improve public safety and reduce homelessness that may be replicated in clusters of small and medium-sized cities across California.

2. North Orange County Public Safety Task Force

The North Orange County Public Safety Task Force was established in the 2017-2018 Budget Act which appropriated \$20 million to be awarded by the Board of State and Community Corrections equally over a four-year period. The Task Force initially included six cities and was later expanded to 11 cities. The legislation required the Task Force to establish a coordinating and advisory council to prioritize the use of the funds and required membership to include city officials, local law enforcement, local education agencies, community-based organizations, and local residents. The funds were required to be used for the purpose of violence prevention, intervention, and suppression activities. More specifically, the legislation authorized the funds to be used for a variety of programs, services, and activities designed to reduce violence, such as programs to address youth violence prevention and intervention, programs to promote and enhance the successful reentry of offenders into the community, and programs to address homeless outreach and intervention. The legislation additionally mandated that at least 60% of the funds went to community-based organizations.

The advisory council is made up of representatives of Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton, La Habra, La Palma, Orange, Placentia, Stanton, and Yorba Linda. Funded organizations include The YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, Anaheim Cops 4 Kids, Waymakers, Pathways of Hope, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, and Homeless Intervention Services of Orange County, among others.

The Task Force's 2020 Annual Report details the types of programs that were funded during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. (North Orange County Public Safety Task Force, *Annual Report to the Legislature, August 2020* available at <https://www.nocpublicsafety.com/_files/ugd/914d32_9f7bc72343494c2fbc50a5c7528d63e3.pdf>.) During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, five million dollars was awarded to 49 community-based organizations. The report notes that although most of the funds were directed toward programming, a portion was set aside to develop programs, workshops, and trainings to build the capacity of funded organizations to engage in more effective planning, collaboration, management, and evaluation, among other things.

As stated above, the Task Force funded organizations that provide services to address youth violence, offender reentry, or homelessness. During the Task Force's third year, a variety of homeless prevention and intervention programs were funded, including those that provided classes to participants, case management, individual and group therapy, referrals for services such as job training and financial counseling, and rental assistance. The report indicates that in the first three quarters of the 2019-2020 fiscal year, nearly 1,200 individuals were placed in shelter, 131 individuals were reunited with and moved back home with their family, 79 individuals were placed in permanent supportive housing, 439 individuals were placed in some other type of supportive housing, 86 individuals gained part-time employment, and 147 individuals gained full-time employment. (*Id.* at pp. 9-12.) With respect to reentry programs, six programs were funded that primarily offered mentoring, case management, life skills training, and other types of training. The report indicates that in the first three quarters of the third year that the Task Force received funding, an average of 463 individuals attended reentry programs on a daily basis and 114 individuals gained full-time or part-time employment. (*Id.* at pp. 18-19.) Finally, 33 of the 49 organizations funded during the Task Force's third year provided programming related to youth violence prevention or intervention. The most common types of services provided by those programs were mentoring, classes, outreach, individual and group counseling, supportive services, recreational activities, and family counseling. Funded programs primarily served middle school and high school age students. The report indicates that in the first three quarters of the third year that the Task Force received funding, funded programs accepted a total of 13,961 new participants, approximately 6,957 individuals were served daily, and 3,605 participants graduated from or completed one of the programs. (*Id.* at pp. 26-27.)

This bill seeks to make the North Orange County Public Safety Task Force permanent, renaming it as the North Orange County Public Safety Collaborative. The requirements to establish a coordinating and advisory board, fund specific types of programs, and distribute at least 60% of the funds to community-based organizations remain under the provisions of the bill. This bill additionally creates the Central Coast Public Safety Collaborative with the same requirements but does not yet include participant cities. Finally, this bill includes a provision appropriating \$16 million to the Collaboratives and states the intent of the Legislature to provide that amount annually in ongoing funding.