
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anthony Portantino, Chair
2023 - 2024 Regular Session

AB 304 (Holden) - Domestic violence: probation

Version: May 18, 2023

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: September 1, 2023

Policy Vote: PUB. S. 4 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Matthew Fleming

Bill Summary: AB 304 would transfer responsibility for approval and oversight of batterer's intervention programs (BIP) from county probation departments to the Department of Justice (DOJ), and require the Judicial Council (JCC) to make changes to judicial training programs on domestic violence.

***** ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on September 1, 2023

Fiscal Impact:

- The DOJ reports costs of approximately \$28.9 million in 2023-24, \$34.6 million annually thereafter to design and implement an approval and renewal process for batterer's programs and counseling programs with input from criminal justice agencies and domestic violence victim advocacy programs, and to oversee the approval, renewal, revocation and suspension of such programs (General Fund).
- The JCC reports ongoing annual costs of approximately \$1 million for additional staff to create the new training programs in six specified areas of instruction and provide them specified judicial officers during orientation, annual training, and with periodic updates (General Fund).
- Costs in the low to mid hundreds of thousands to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for additional staffing to consult with DOJ to develop comprehensive standards through regulations, including, but not limited to, program provider curricula and training to various professions involved in the enforcement of domestic violence crimes or the monitoring or rehabilitation of individuals convicted of domestic violence crimes (General Fund).
- Unknown, potentially reimbursable costs to local probation departments as a result of additional reporting requirements imposed by AB 304 (local funds, General Fund). General Fund costs will depend on whether this bill imposes a reimbursable state mandate as determined by the Commission on State Mandates. The bill may simultaneously result in significant savings to local probation departments as a result of transferring responsibility for the BIP to the DOJ.

Author Amendments: Eliminate DOJ oversight over county probation departments.

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