
SENATE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW

Senator Scott Wiener, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular

Bill No:	AB 157	Hearing Date:	September 10, 2025
Author:	Committee on Budget		
Version:	September 8, 2025 As amended		
Urgency:	No	Fiscal:	Yes
Consultant:	Nora Brackbill		

Subject: Public Safety

Summary: This bill, as part of the 2025-26 Budget package, makes the following statutory changes:

- 1) Updates the methodology for performance-based grants to county probation departments, which are distributed through the continuously appropriated State Community Corrections Performance Incentives Fund. The program was established by SB 678 (Leno), Chapter 608, Statutes of 2009 to incentivize county probation departments to reduce the number of individuals under their supervision who are sent to state prison.
 - a) Appropriates \$103.7 million General Fund to the State Community Corrections Performance Incentives Fund for a performance maintenance payment, provided as follows:
 - i) Counties that maintain or improve their return to prison rates are eligible for the full payment.
 - ii) Counties whose return to prison rates increase by more than 0.5 percentage points are eligible for a partial payment, reduced from the full amount by a factor of 10 percent per percentage point increase in the return to prison rate.
 - b) Provides for an additional performance incentive payment, where counties receive a portion of state savings if fewer individuals under probation supervision in that county return to state prison than expected. This bill also specifies that state savings are calculated based on the per capita cost of incarceration in state prison and parole supervision, rather than based on the cost of a contract placement, as contract prison facilities are no longer used by the state.
 - c) Provides a minimum of \$200,000 to each county, if the previous two components are less than that amount.
 - d) Updates various definitions and reporting requirements.
- 2) Streamlines specified contracting requirements for the Community Participant Mother Program at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

(CDCR), to align with changes made for other community reentry programs in SB 135 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review), Chapter 190, Statutes of 2023.

- a) Permits CDCR to enter long-term contracts of up to ten years for the program.
 - b) Allows CDCR to use a request-for-information contracting process, as specified.
 - c) Directs CDCR to prioritize proposals for programs with approved land use, that can provide a rehabilitative setting and programming, that are operated by experienced nonprofit organizations, and that have demonstrated expertise in supporting and strengthening family connection and parent-child relationships.
- 3) Exempts the Office of the State Public Defender (OSPD) from specified contracting requirements to prevent conflicts between those requirements and the best interests of OSPD's clients, particularly for case-related contracts.
 - 4) Allows specified Board of State and Community Corrections employees access to local detention facility records in order to review in-custody deaths, as required by SB 519 (Atkins), Chapter 306, Statutes of 2023, and makes various other clarifying changes.
 - 5) Resolves a conflict between AB 134 (Committee on Budget), Chapter 10, Statutes of 2025, and SB 857 (Committee on Public Safety) of the 2025-26 Regular Session, if that bill is enacted and becomes effective on or before January 1, 2026.
 - 6) Takes effect immediately as a bill providing for appropriations related to the Budget Bill.

Fiscal Effect: This bill results in General Fund costs of \$128.0 million in 2025-26 and similar amounts ongoing for the Community Corrections Performance Incentive Grant Program.

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