

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 1932 (Elhawary)

As Amended August 21, 2026

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Reauthorizes the Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems (C.R.I.S.E.S.) Grant Pilot Program to reflect the repeal of the prior program on June 30, 2026.

Senate Amendments

Address the California Department of Social Services' (CDSS) concerns by restoring the introduced version of this bill without enforcement provisions or the workgroup's decision-making role. Specifically, the amendments do the following:

- 1) Restructure the C.R.I.S.E.S. Grant Pilot Program from an extension to a new program.
- 2) Remove the urgency clause.
- 3) Sunset the C.R.I.S.E.S. Grant Pilot Program on June 30, 2032.
- 4) Delay the first grant awards from before January 1, 2027, to on or before October 1, 2027, annually thereafter, and condition all awards on an appropriation in the annual Budget Act.
- 5) Reestablish the C.R.I.S.E.S. Program Fund in the State Treasury, expendable by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) upon appropriation.
- 6) Cap administrative spending at 5% of appropriated funds for CDSS implementation agreements and limit the share of grant funds usable for program implementation and administration to 10%.
- 7) Remove the following requirements for CDSS: to report to the Legislature and post award information publicly, quarterly stakeholder workgroup meeting; and workgroup vacancy-filling, including the 90-day deadline.

COMMENTS

Background: *Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems Act*. AB 118 (Kamlager), Chapter 694, Statutes of 2021, established the original C.R.I.S.E.S Act, which created a C.R.I.S.E.S. Grant Pilot Program to support CBOs in developing and implementing an alternative to law enforcement responses to certain emergency situations. Current law authorizes CDSS to award grants to cities, counties, and tribes, which must then distribute at least 90% of grant funds to CBOs to operate community-based crisis response programs. Current law also requires CDSS to convene a stakeholder workgroup, collect program data, and issue a public report evaluating program outcomes and fiscal impacts following the conclusion of the pilot program. Current law establishes the C.R.I.S.E.S. Program Fund in the State Treasury, limits administrative costs, and provides that the program is operative only if funding is appropriated in the 2021 Budget Act. The original pilot program required grants to be awarded by January 1, 2023, and the statutes sunset and repealed on June 30, 2026.

CDSS announced on February 1, 2024, that \$9.5 million in grant funding was awarded under the C.R.I.S.E.S Grant Pilot Program to four jurisdictions and their CBO partners: the City of Oakland and Family Bridges Inc; County of Marin Health and Human Services and Marin County Cooperation Team; County of Sacramento Department of Health and Bay Area Community Services, Inc.; and, Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health and Family Services Agency of the Central Coast. The grant pilot program operates from October 1, 2023, through April 30, 2026, during which grantees are required to implement pilot programs, collect data, and report outcomes related to program implementation, services provided, and impacts on emergency response systems. The purpose of the pilot is to identify promising community-based crisis response practices and develop policy recommendations for the Legislature and Governor regarding whether and how to expand community-based crisis response programs statewide.

According to the Author

"Every day, people experiencing mental health or substance use crises are met not with care, but with uniforms and armed response that can escalate already intense situations. These moments of vulnerability call for compassion, understanding, and specialized support, yet too often, the system sends the wrong kind of help. When law enforcement is asked to respond to crises they are not trained to handle, situations can escalate quickly. Too many of these encounters have ended in unnecessary trauma, injury, or loss of life, all which could have been prevented with the right response. Filling a gap between enforcement and those needing help, [this bill] seeks to provide culturally competent care that will ultimately save lives. By using community-based response measures, the outcomes of emergencies that require a lacking presence of enforcement are rather met with support. This bill does not create a new system but instead extends the already working response of capable organizations serving as cost effective lifesaving resources."

Arguments in Support

Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice, a co-sponsor, writes "In light of recent immigration enforcement actions that have intensified fear in many immigrant communities, it is crucial to invest in community-based alternatives to law enforcement responses, including, but not limited to, providing mobile crisis teams or community para-medicine teams to respond to emergencies involving mental health, intimate partner violence, community violence, substance abuse, or natural disasters. These community-based emergency response teams shall not include law enforcement officers or agencies as first responders or co-responders."

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 13, 2026:

- 1) Unknown General Fund costs, potentially low millions, to provide funding for grants.
- 2) Unknown General Fund costs, potentially hundreds of thousands, for the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for state administration.

VOTES:**ASM HUMAN SERVICES: 6-0-1****YES:** Lee, Castillo, Calderon, Elhawary, Jackson, Solache**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Tangipa**ASM JUDICIARY: 11-1-0****YES:** Kalra, Macedo, Bauer-Kahan, Bryan, Connolly, Dixon, Harabedian, Pacheco, Papan, Stefani, Zbur**NO:** Sanchez**ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 13-0-2****YES:** Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Ta, Tangipa**ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-2-10****YES:** Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas**NO:** Hadwick, Sanchez**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Arambula, Chen, Garcia, Johnson, Lackey, Patterson, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta, Tangipa**UPDATED**

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CONSULTANT: Bri-Ann Hernandez-Mengual / HUM. S. / (916) 319-2089

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