
THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2378
Author: Gabriel (D) and Wicks (D), et al.
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/23/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-2, 8/13/26
AYES: Cervantes, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab
NOES: Seyarto, Dahle

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Violence Intervention and Prevention Grant Program

SOURCE: Giffords

DIGEST: This bill creates the Office of Community Violence Intervention (OCVI), to administer the California Violence and Intervention Grant Program (CalVIP), within the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) States that the CalVIP is created to be administered by the BSCC. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 14131, subd. (a).)
- 2) Establishes that the purpose of CalVIP is to improve public health and safety by supporting effective community gun violence reduction initiatives in communities that are disproportionately impacted by community gun violence. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (b).)

- 3) Requires that CalVIP grants are used to develop, support, expand, and replicate evidence-based community gun violence reduction initiatives. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (c).)
- 4) Requires that CalVIP grants be made on a competitive basis to cities that are disproportionately impacted by community gun violence, to community-based organizations that serve the residents of those cities, and to counties that have one or more cities disproportionately impacted by community gun violence within their jurisdiction. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (d).)
- 5) Enumerates factors that cause a city to be considered disproportionately impacted by community gun violence. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (e).)
- 6) Establishes that an applicant for a CalVIP grant shall submit a proposal, in a form prescribed by the BSCC, which shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
 - a) Clearly defined and measurable objectives for the grant.
 - b) A statement describing how the applicant proposes to use the grant to implement an evidence-based community gun violence reduction initiative in accordance with this section, including how the applicant will identify, engage, and provide violence intervention services.
 - c) A statement describing how the applicant proposes to use the grant to enhance coordination of existing community gun violence prevention and intervention programs and minimize duplication of services in the proposed service area.
 - d) Evidence indicating that the proposed violence reduction initiative would likely reduce the incidence of community gun violence in the proposed service area within the grant period.
 - e) For city or county applicants, a statement demonstrating support for the proposed violence reduction initiative from one or more community-based organizations, or from a public agency or department other than a law enforcement agency that is primarily dedicated to community safety or violence prevention. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (f).)
- 7) States that in awarding CalVIP grants, the BSCC shall give preference to applicants whose grant proposals demonstrate the greatest likelihood of reducing the incidence of community gun violence in the applicant's

community within the grant period without contributing to mass incarceration. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (g).)

- 8) Establishes the amount of funds awarded to an applicant shall be commensurate with the scope of the applicant's proposal and the applicant's demonstrated need for additional resources to address community gun violence in the applicant's community. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (h).)
- 9) Provides that upon making CalVIP grant awards, the BSCC shall make at least 20 percent of an approved grantee's total grant award available to the grantee at the start of the grant period or as soon as possible thereafter, in order to enable grantees to immediately utilize such funds to support violence reduction initiatives. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (i).)
- 10) States that each city or county that receives a CalVIP grant shall distribute no less than 50 percent of the grant funds to one or more of any of the following types of entities: community-based organizations, public agencies or departments, other than law enforcement agencies or departments, that are primarily dedicated to community safety or violence prevention, or tribal governments. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (j).)
- 11) Requires the BSCC to form an executive steering committee, as specified, and authorizes the BSCC to reserve funding, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subds. (k)-(l).)
- 12) Establishes that each grantee shall report to the BSCC, in a form and at intervals prescribed by the BSCC, their progress in achieving the grant objectives. (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (m).)

This bill:

- 1) Creates the OCVI within the BSCC.
- 2) Requires that the Director of the OCVI be selected by the BSCC and requires that the BSCC consult with organizations in the field of community violence intervention on factors to consider when evaluating candidates.
- 3) Requires the OCVI to do all the following:
 - a) Administer the CalVIP.
 - b) Advise the BSCC on the implementation of community violence intervention and prevention policies.

- c) Coordinate with the Department of Justice's Office of Gun Violence Prevention to create a statewide strategic plan for community violence intervention and prevention programs.
- d) Develop methods of measuring the capacity of the community violence intervention and prevention field in California and gather data from CalVIP grantees.
- e) Educate the public about community violence causes and effective solutions.
- f) Identify and apply for available federal grants and other funding to further its work to prevent community violence. When the office determines it is appropriate, the office may work in collaboration with other state departments and partners to identify and apply for federal grants and other funding.
- g) Convene and facilitate the executive steering committee.
- h) Serve as a liaison to community violence intervention and prevention stakeholders, including other governmental agencies.
- i) Provide technical assistance for community violence intervention and prevention organizations and CalVIP grantees.

Background

The CalVIP grant program was established in 2017 and codified as the Break the Cycle of Violence Act (AB 1603, Wicks, Chapter 735, Statutes of 2019), replacing the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention grant program that began in 2007. According to the BSCC, the purpose of the program is to “enhance public health and safety through support for community-based gun violence reduction efforts in communities that are disproportionately impacted by gun violence.” (BSCC (2026). *California Violence Intervention and Prevention Program* https://www.bscc.ca.gov/s_cpgpcalvipgrant/.) Grants are awarded to applicants that have developed an evidence-based program to reduce community gun violence. (*Ibid.*) The purpose of the grants, according to the BSCC, is “to disrupt cycles of violence and retaliatory actions in order to lower the rates of homicides, shootings, and aggravated assaults in affected communities.” (*Ibid.*)

The CalVIP grant program is meant to be used by communities that disproportionately suffer from gun violence. Projects funded by CalVIP must be “primarily focused on providing violence intervention services to the small segment of the population that is identified as high risk of perpetrating or being

victimized by community gun violence in the near future.” (Pen. Code, § 14131, subd. (c).)

Eligible Cohort 5 (the most recently evaluated applicant cohort) of CalVIP applicants fall into four categories: 1) Cities that are “disproportionately impacted by violence,” 2) counties that have one or more cities disproportionately impacted by violence within their jurisdiction, 3) tribal governments located within the identified counties, and 4) identified community-based organizations that serve the residents of the cities and/or tribal governments. (California Grants Portal (March 2025). *California Violence Intervention & Prevention Cohort 5* <https://www.grants.ca.gov/grants/california-violence-intervention-prevention-cohort-5/>.)

The BSCC is required to fund 20% of a grantee’s total award available at the start of the grant period. (*Ibid.*) Following the initial 20% disbursement, the remaining funds are released on a reimbursement basis. (*Ibid.*) For grantees that choose to receive an advance payment, the BSCC will withhold a minimum of 50% of funds claimed on each invoice toward reconciliation of the advance until the full advance is expended. (*Ibid.*)

Currently, California has an Office of Gun Violence Prevention (OGVP), which is housed within the Attorney General’s office. (State of California Department of Justice (2026). *Office of Gun Violence Prevention* <https://oag.ca.gov/ogvp>.) Their mission is to “reduce and prevent gun violence, firearm injury, and related trauma. OGVP will support DOJ’s ongoing gun violence reduction efforts led by the Bureau of Firearms and several litigation teams — including seizure of firearms from dangerous individuals using the Armed and Prohibited Persons System, prosecution of firearms trafficking cases, and defense of California’s commonsense gun laws.” (*Ibid.*) The OGVP does not oversee CalVIP grants.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

According to the Senate Committee on Appropriations:

- Estimated \$2.8 million to \$3.4 million based on a five percent administrative cap and projected revenues to the Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Fund.
- Estimated \$60 million for FY 2026-27 and \$62 million for FY 2027-28. (Gun Violence Prevention and School Safety Fund)

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/13/26)

Giffords (source)

Brady United Against Gun Violence

California Public Defenders Association

City of Long Beach

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

Everytown for Gun Safety Action Fund

Mayor Todd Gloria, City of San Diego

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America

San Quentin Skunkworks

Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/13/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Castillo, Dixon, Ellis, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta, Tangipa

Prepared by: Natalia DaSilva Telles / PUB. S. /
8/14/26 11:56:59

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