
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Senator Jesse Arreguín, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular

Bill No: AB 2760 **Hearing Date:** June 16, 2026
Author: Sharp-Collins
Version: March 19, 2026
Urgency: No **Fiscal:** No
Consultant: ML

Subject: *County board of supervisors: inspector general*

HISTORY

Source: Author

Prior Legislation: AB 1185 (McCarty), Ch. 342, Stats. of 2020
SB 112 (Committee on Budget), Ch. 364, Stats. of 2019

Support: Unknown

Opposition: Chief Probation Officers' of California; Peace Officers Research Association of California

Assembly Floor Vote: 51 - 7

PURPOSE

The purpose of this bill is to authorize counties to establish a county Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to assist the board of supervisors with oversight duties as they relate to county animal control departments or to the office of the chief county probation officer.

Existing law creates the independent California OIG, which must not be a subdivision of any other governmental entity. Requires the Governor to appoint, subject to confirmation by the Senate, the Inspector General (IG) to a six-year term. States that the IG may not be removed from office during that term, except for good cause. (Pen. Code, § 6125.)

Existing law makes the IG responsible for contemporaneous oversight of internal affairs investigations and the disciplinary process of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), as defined, under policies to be developed by the Inspector General. (Pen. Code, § 6126, subd. (a).)

Existing law authorizes a county to create a sheriff oversight board, composed of civilians, either by action of the board of supervisors or through a vote of county residents, to assist the board of supervisors with defined duties. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (a)(1).)

Existing law requires that members of the sheriff oversight board be appointed by the board of supervisors. Requires that the board of supervisors designate one member to serve as the chairperson of the board. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (a)(2).)

Existing law establishes that the members of the oversight board must have access to the personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers required for the performance of the board's oversight duties. Requires that the oversight board maintain the confidentiality of these records, as defined. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (a)(3).)

Existing law authorizes the chair of the sheriff oversight board to issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum whenever the board deems it necessary or important to examine the following:

- Any person as a witness upon any subject matter within the jurisdiction of the board.
- Any officer of the county in relation to the discharge of their official duties on behalf of the sheriff's department.
- Any books, papers, or documents in the possession of or under the control of a person or officer relating to the affairs of the sheriff's department. A subpoena must be served in accordance with defined procedures. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (b)(1)-(2).)

Existing law provides that a sheriff oversight board may conduct closed sessions, consistent with defined law, to review confidential records obtained under this section or otherwise related to its oversight duties, if those sessions comply with applicable confidentiality laws. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (b)(4).)

Existing law provides that a county, through action of the board of supervisors or vote by county residents, may establish an OIG, appointed by the board of supervisors, to assist the board of supervisors with its duties required pursuant to defined requirements that relate to the sheriff. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(1)(A).)

Existing law establishes that the IG must have the independent authority to issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum subject to defined procedures. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(2).)

Existing law states the IG must have access to the personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers required for the performance of the inspector general's oversight duties. Requires the IG to maintain the confidentiality of these records. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(3).)

Existing law specifies that the exercise of powers under this law or other investigative functions performed by a board of supervisors, sheriff oversight board, or inspector general vested with oversight responsibility for the sheriff must not be considered to obstruct the investigative functions of the sheriff. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (d).)

Existing law states that in counties with charters that provide for appointment and tenure of office for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the charter must control as to those matters and, in counties that have established or hereafter establish merit or civil service systems governing the methods of appointment and the tenure for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the merit or civil service systems must control as to those matters. (Gov. Code, § 27770, subd. (b).)

Existing law requires the chief probation officer to perform the following duties and discharge the following obligations:

- Community supervision of offenders subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.
- Operation of juvenile halls.
- Operation of juvenile camps and ranches.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to probation.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to mandatory supervision.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to postrelease community supervision.
- Administration of community-based corrections programming.
- Serving as chair of the Community Corrections Partnership.
- Making recommendations to the court, including, but not limited to, pre-sentence investigative reports. (Gov. Code, § 27771, subd. (a).)

Existing law specifies that the chief probation officer may perform other duties and may accept appointment to the Board of State and Community Corrections and collect the per diem. (Gov. Code, § 27771, subd. (b).)

Existing law defines “animal control department” as the county or city animal control department. States that if the city or county does not have an animal control department, the term means whatever entity performs animal control functions. (Food & Ag. Code, § 31606.)

This bill authorizes counties to establish an OIG to assist the board of supervisors with oversight duties as they relate to county animal control departments or the office of the chief county probation officer.

COMMENTS

1. Need for This Bill

The author writes:

AB 2760 is about crafting public safety that reflects the full scope of systems that shape people’s lives, beyond policing, including probation and animal control agencies that exercise authority with limited oversight. This bill takes a necessary step toward transparency and accountability by bringing these agencies under the independent review of the Office of Inspector General. At a time when Californians are demanding a more just and equitable system, AB 2760 ensures that oversight keeps pace with power, strengthens public trust, and moves us closer to an accountable public safety system.

2. County Inspectors General

Existing law authorizes any county, through action of the board of supervisors or vote by county residents, to establish a county OIG, appointed by the board of supervisors, to assist the board of supervisors with its oversight duties that relate to the sheriff. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(1)(A).) The IG has the independent authority to issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum subject to defined procedures. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(2).) Furthermore, the IG has access to the personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers required for the performance of the inspector general’s oversight duties. The IG must maintain the confidentiality of these records. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(3).)

3. County Probation Departments

In counties with charters that provide for appointment and tenure of office for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the charter must control as to those matters and, in counties that have established or hereafter establish merit or civil service systems governing the methods of appointment and the tenure for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the merit or civil service systems must control. (Gov. Code, § 27770, subd. (b).) The chief probation officer performs the following duties:

- Community supervision of offenders subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.
- Operation of juvenile halls.
- Operation of juvenile camps and ranches.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to probation.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to mandatory supervision.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to postrelease community supervision.
- Administration of community-based corrections programming.
- Serving as chair of the Community Corrections Partnership.
- Making recommendations to the court, including, but not limited to, pre-sentence investigative reports. (Gov. Code, § 27771, subd. (a).)

The author notes that while police and sheriff departments are often subject to IG review, probation and animal control departments are not, despite their significant authority over vulnerable populations, justice-involved individuals, and animals.

Los Angeles (LA) County has recently subjected its county probation office to independent oversight. (Loudenback, J., *Los Angeles County Probation Now Under Civilian Oversight, With Subpoena Power* (Oct. 4, 2019) <<https://imprintnews.org/los-angeles/los-angeles-county-probation-now-under-civilian-oversight-with-subpoena-power/38079>>.) LA County's oversight commission has the power to conduct unfettered, unannounced and publicly reported inspections of facilities where youth in the care of probation are being held; create a wholly independent grievance process; conduct investigations; and compel data, documents, and testimony. (*Ibid.*) One report from the Urban Peace Institute has made recommendations for comprehensive transparency and accountability measures for county probation departments that could involve creating "youth and community oversight bodies," such as a county Inspector General. (Brown, N. *Building Safety in Los Angeles: A Policy Agenda for Local Health and Safer Communities* (Sept. 2022) <<https://www.urbanpeaceinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Building-Safety-in-Los-Angeles.pdf>>.)

This bill authorizes counties to establish an OIG to assist the board of supervisors with oversight duties as they relate to county animal control departments or the office of the chief county probation officer.

4. Argument in Opposition

The Chief Probation Officers of California write:

While County Probation Departments serve the counties in which they operate, they are also governed by a body of state laws ensuring both consistency and

interoperability, which require extra care when considering new laws authorizing individual counties to implement standalone oversight authority to ensure these standalone practices are not in conflict with, or duplicative of, authority held by other entities.

Under existing law and practice Probation departments serve both the county governance structure and Board of Supervisors, and as an arm of the court. There is significant authority and inspection obligations covering juvenile facilities such as that held by the Board of State and Community Corrections, Juvenile Justice Commission, the grand jury, departments of public health, fire marshal, environmental health, and the OYCR ombudsperson.

Additionally, there is existing board of supervisors and court oversight, as well as various commissions, councils and subcommittees that engage in discussions looking at the delivery of services for persons ordered by the court to a term of probation.

We are not aware of any gaps in oversight or inspection given the current structure administered by the wide array of governmental entities cited above, and are concerned this bill will not address something that is missing in existing law and practice but instead will lead to confusion and delay in administration of existing oversight and inspection practices.

-- END --