

## SENATE THIRD READING

SB 380 (Jones)

As Amended May 23, 2025

2/3 vote. Urgency

**SUMMARY**

Requires the State Department of State Hospitals (DSH) to conduct an analysis of the benefits and feasibility of establishing transitional housing facilities for the conditional release program (CONREP) for sexually violent predators (SVP).

**Major Provisions**

- 1) Requires the findings of the analysis in a report to be submitted to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2027.
- 2) Contains an urgency clause so that its provisions may go into effect immediately.

**COMMENTS****According to the Author**

"Senate Bill 380 implements a California State Auditor's recommendation by requiring the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) to conduct a feasibility study on utilizing transitional housing in the Forensic Conditional Release Program (CONREP) for Sexually Violent Predators (SVPs).

"In 2023, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee approved an audit of the CONREP process. The audit found that DSH has encountered numerous hurdles in securing suitable housing for program participants. These challenges include complex program requirements designed to ensure public safety, a scarcity of property owners willing to rent for the program, and significant public opposition to placing SVPs in local communities. Consequently, placements have taken an average of 17 months—far exceeding the 30-day period mandated by state law.

"The audit recommended that DSH explore establishing state-owned transitional housing by analyzing its benefits and feasibility; however, DSH declared that it would not implement this recommendation.

"By mandating a feasibility study, SB 380 ensures that DSH and the Legislature will have the necessary data to evaluate whether state-owned transitional housing can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the SVP placement process while maintaining public safety."

**Arguments in Support**

According to *Crime Victims United*, "In 2023, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee conducted a thorough review of the SVP placement process, ultimately recommending that DSH explore the feasibility of establishing state-owned transitional housing to improve placement efficiency and public safety. Despite this clear recommendation, DSH has declined to act. SB 380 simply ensures that this important study is conducted so the Legislature can make informed policy decisions about the future of SVP housing."

**Arguments in Opposition**

None Submitted.

**FISCAL COMMENTS**

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, "One-time costs (General Fund) to DSH to complete the study, likely in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. DSH anticipates costs of about \$479,000 for two limited-term, full-time equivalent positions to conduct the analysis, plus contract costs for experts about conditional release programs in other states that use transitional housing facilities. DSH estimates the study will take six to 12 months to complete.

"Regardless of cost, consistent with Appropriations Committee rules and practice, this bill is eligible for placement on the suspense file because it has the primary purpose of creating a report."

**VOTES****SENATE FLOOR: 39-0-1**

**YES:** Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Reyes

**ASM PUBLIC SAFETY: 9-0-0**

**YES:** Schultz, Alanis, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Lackey, Nguyen, Ramos, Sharp-Collins

**ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0**

**YES:** Wicks, Sanchez, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Ahrens, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

**UPDATED**

VERSION: May 23, 2025

CONSULTANT: Stella Choe / PUB. S. / (916) 319-3744

FN: 0001317