

Introduced by Senator DeSaulnier

February 27, 2009

An act relating to gun safety.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 746, as amended, DeSaulnier. Gun Safety Board.

Existing law establishes various programs to improve public health.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would create, within the State Department of Public Health, the Gun Safety Board, and ~~charge it~~ *that would charge the board* with various duties in regard to reducing gun violence. The bill would state findings and declarations of the Legislature pertaining to ~~these~~ *those* matters.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~yes~~-no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Every day in the United States, eight children and teenagers
- 4 are killed and more than 47 are injured by firearms.
- 5 (b) In 2005, 595 California children and youths under 21 years
- 6 of age were killed with firearms and 1,554 California children and
- 7 youths under 21 years of age were hospitalized with nonfatal
- 8 firearms injuries.

1 (c) One-third of children in the United States live in homes with
2 firearms, and almost half of these homes keep the gun unlocked.

3 (d) Sixty-eight percent of the attackers in school shootings
4 obtained the firearm from their own home or that of a relative.

5 (e) The medical costs of gun violence place a terrible burden
6 on health services, governments, and taxpayers.

7 (f) In 1995 the medical cost of gun violence nationwide was
8 four billion dollars (\$4,000,000,000), and the public paid for about
9 85 percent of that amount.

10 (g) Including indirect costs, gun violence costs the United States
11 over one hundred billion dollars (\$100,000,000,000) annually.

12 (h) In 2003, the medical cost of nonfatal, hospital admitted,
13 firearm injuries in California was almost two hundred million
14 dollars (\$200,000,000).

15 SEC. 2. (a) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
16 legislation that would create, within the State Department of Public
17 Health, a Gun Safety Board.

18 (2) The purpose of the board would be to oversee and implement
19 a strategy to reduce the incidents of gun violence and accidental
20 shootings, including the number of homicides, injuries, suicides
21 and deaths in order to save money on gunshot related deaths,
22 nonfatal injuries, medical costs, incarceration and the devastation
23 to society as a whole.

24 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that any legislation that is
25 enacted creating the board would also require that any program
26 implemented by the board or grants provided by the board would
27 do the following:

28 (1) Demonstrate achievement of program goals and measurable
29 improvements in gun violence. A method is needed for
30 documenting the logical connection between provided services
31 and avoided costly crisis intervention services and negative
32 outcomes. Data collected should reflect improved outcomes
33 consistent with the mission of the board.

34 (2) Demonstrate a systematic approach to achieving improved
35 outcomes, including evidence of effective partnerships with other
36 agencies, thereby avoiding costly inefficiencies, fragmentation, or
37 duplication.

38 (3) Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of creating
39 diversified funding sources for prevention and early intervention
40 services and knowledge of how to leverage or braid eligible

1 categorical dollars and private funds to maximize dollars available
2 for prevention and early intervention programs, including pursuing
3 necessary relationships and implementing appropriate program
4 documentation to expand eligibility for categorical state and federal
5 dollars.

6 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that any legislation enacted
7 to create the board would also require the board to do all of the
8 following:

9 (1) Implement programs, and adopt standards, rules, and
10 regulations in accordance with the provisions of this act to reduce
11 gun violence.

12 (2) Conduct research into the causes of, and solutions to, gun
13 violence, and systematically attack the serious problems caused
14 by gun violence.

15 (3) Provide grant money to reduce gun violence.

16 (d) The board would do both of the following:

17 (1) Contract for technical advisory services and other services
18 as may be necessary for the performance of its powers and duties.

19 (2) Appoint advisory groups and committees as it requires.

20 (e) It is the intent of the Legislature that any legislation enacted
21 to create the board would also provide funding for the board by
22 imposing a ~~twenty-five dollar (\$25)~~ *five dollar (\$5)* fee on all retail
23 sales of firearms, or transfers of firearms between persons who
24 are not licensed firearms dealers, and that moneys generated
25 pursuant to those provisions would be deposited in the Gun Safety
26 Board Special Fund.