

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 21, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 30, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 20, 2015
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1056

Introduced by Assembly Member Atkins
(Principal coauthor: Senator De León)

February 26, 2015

An act to add Article 5 (commencing with Section 6046) to Chapter 5 of Title 7 of Part 3 of the Penal Code, relating to recidivism reduction, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1056, as amended, Atkins. Second Chance Program.

(1) Existing law establishes the Board of State and Community Corrections as an entity independent of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and authorizes the board to carry out various powers and duties relating to providing advice and leadership on criminal justice issues.

This bill would require the board to administer a competitive grant program that focuses on community-based solutions for reducing recidivism. The bill would establish minimum criteria for the grant program and would require the board to establish an Executive Steering Committee, composed of 13 members, as specified, to adopt guidelines for the submission of proposals for the grant program, including threshold or scoring criteria, or both. Among other things, the bill would require those guidelines to prioritize proposals that advance principles of restorative justice while demonstrating a capacity to reduce

recidivism, and that leverage certain other federal, state, and local funds or social investments. The bill would define recidivism, for the purposes of these provisions, as a conviction of a new felony or misdemeanor committed within 3 years of release from custody or committed within 3 years of placement on supervision for a previous criminal conviction.

(2) The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act establishes within the State Treasury the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund to receive moneys transferred from the General Fund in an amount equal to the savings resulting from the implementation of the act, as specified. The act requires that 65% of the moneys in the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund be allocated the Board of State and Community Corrections to administer a grant program to public agencies aimed at supporting specified types of programs, including diversion programs, for people in the criminal justice system with an emphasis on programs that reduce recidivism, as specified.

This bill would create the Second Chance Fund in the State Treasury for the purpose of funding the above-described recidivism reduction program. The bill would require the Board of State and Community Corrections to deposit the above-described moneys it receives from the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund into the Second Chance Fund. The bill would also authorize the Second Chance Fund to receive moneys from any other federal, state, or local grant, or from any private donation. The bill would prohibit the board from using the moneys in the fund to supplant existing programs and from spending more than 5% per year of the total moneys in the fund for administrative purposes.

The bill would require the board to administer these provisions, and moneys in the fund would be continuously appropriated to the board for expenditure for these purposes. By creating a continuously appropriated fund, this bill would make an appropriation.

(3) The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act provides that its provisions may be amended by a statute, passed by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of each house of the Legislature and signed by the Governor, that is consistent with and furthers the intent of the act.

This bill would declare that its provisions further the intent of the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
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) California voters approved Proposition 47, known as the
4 Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act of 2014. The measure was
5 enacted to ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and
6 serious offenses, to maximize alternatives for nonviolent and
7 nonserious crime, and to invest the resulting savings into prevention
8 and support programs.

9 (b) Research has shown that people in the criminal justice system
10 disproportionately suffer from mental health issues and substance
11 use disorders. Nationally, over one-half of all people in prisons or
12 jails have experienced a mental health issue within the last year,
13 and over one-half of women and 44 percent of men in jail have a
14 drug or alcohol dependency.

15 (c) People in the criminal justice system and formerly
16 incarcerated individuals have difficulty securing housing and
17 employment following their incarceration. These challenges are
18 compounded for people living with mental health issues or
19 substance use disorders. As a result, many formerly incarcerated
20 people, especially those with mental health issues or substance
21 abuse disorders experience homelessness. Experiencing
22 homelessness greatly increases the likelihood that a formerly
23 incarcerated person will recidivate.

24 (d) Offering people in the criminal justice system and formerly
25 incarcerated individuals meaningful access to mental health
26 services, substance use treatment services, housing, housing-related
27 job assistance, job skills training, and other community-based
28 supportive services has been shown to decrease the likelihood of
29 future contact with law enforcement and the criminal justice
30 system.

31 (e) Prioritizing the state savings realized by the implementation
32 of the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act of 2014 for projects
33 that combine mental health services, substance use treatment
34 services, housing, housing-related job assistance, job skills training,
35 and other community-based supportive services will help the state
36 meaningfully reduce recidivism.

37 (f) By prioritizing projects that offer comprehensive
38 interventions, the Legislature intends for public agencies,

1 nonprofits, and other community-based providers of services to
2 people in the criminal justice system and formerly incarcerated
3 individuals to leverage additional federal, state, and local funds
4 for social investment resources.

5 (g) The Legislature intends to promote the use of restorative
6 justice principles in addressing recidivism.

7 SEC. 2. Article 5 (commencing with Section 6046) is added
8 to Chapter 5 of Title 7 of Part 3 of the Penal Code, to read:

9

10 Article 5. Second Chance Program

11

12 6046. (a) The purpose of this article is to build safer
13 communities by investing in community-based programs, services,
14 and initiatives for formerly incarcerated individuals in need of
15 mental health and substance use treatment services.

16 (b) The program established pursuant to this article shall be
17 restricted to supporting mental health treatment, substance use
18 treatment, and diversion programs for persons in the criminal
19 justice system, with an emphasis on programs that reduce
20 recidivism of persons convicted of less serious crimes, such as
21 those covered by the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act of 2014,
22 and those who have substance use and mental health problems.

23 (c) The Board of State and Community Corrections shall
24 administer a grant program established pursuant to this article.

25 6046.1. For the purposes of this article, the following
26 definitions shall apply:

27 (a) "Board" means the Board of State and Community
28 Corrections.

29 (b) "Committee" means an Executive Steering Committee of
30 the board.

31 (c) "Fund" means the Second Chance Fund established pursuant
32 to Section 6046.2.

33 (d) "Public agency" means a county, city, whether a general
34 law city or a chartered city, or city and county, the duly constituted
35 governing body of an Indian reservation or rancheria, a school
36 district, municipal corporation, district, political subdivision, or
37 any board, commission, or agency thereof, entities that are
38 legislative bodies of a local agency pursuant to subdivision (c) or
39 (d) of Section 54952 of the Government Code, a housing authority
40 organized pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 34200)

1 of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code, a state agency, public
2 district, or other political subdivision of the state, or any
3 instrumentality thereof, which is authorized to engage in or assist
4 in the development or operation of housing for persons and families
5 of low or moderate income.

6 (e) “Recidivism” means a conviction of a new felony or
7 misdemeanor committed within three years of release from custody
8 or committed within three years of placement on supervision for
9 a previous criminal conviction.

10 6046.2. (a) The Second Chance Fund is hereby created in the
11 State Treasury. The board shall be responsible for administering
12 the fund. Moneys in the fund are hereby continuously appropriated
13 without regard to fiscal year for the purposes of this article.

14 (b) (1) The Board of State and Community Corrections shall
15 deposit the moneys disbursed to it pursuant to paragraph (3) of
16 subdivision (a) of Section 7599.2 of the Government Code into
17 the Second Chance Fund.

18 (2) The Second Chance Fund may receive moneys from any
19 other federal, state, or local grant, or from any private donation or
20 grant, for the purposes of this article.

21 (c) The board shall not spend more than 5 percent annually of
22 the moneys in the fund for administrative costs.

23 6046.3. (a) The board shall administer a competitive grant
24 program to carry out the purposes of this article that focuses on
25 community-based solutions for reducing recidivism. The grant
26 program shall, at minimum, do all of the following:

27 (1) Restrict eligibility to proposals designed to serve people
28 who have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of criminal
29 offense and have a history of mental health or substance use
30 disorders.

31 (2) Restrict eligibility to proposals that offer mental health
32 services, substance use disorder treatment services, misdemeanor
33 diversion programs, or some combination thereof.

34 (3) Restrict eligibility to proposals that have a public agency as
35 ~~one of the applicants.~~ *the lead applicant.*

36 (b) The board shall create a committee to develop guidelines
37 for administration of the grant program, consistent with the
38 purposes of this article. The committee shall adopt guidelines for
39 the submission of proposals, including threshold or scoring criteria,
40 or both, that do all of the following:

- 1 (1) Prioritize proposals that advance principles of restorative
2 justice while demonstrating a capacity to reduce recidivism.
- 3 (2) Prioritize proposals that leverage other federal, state, and
4 local funds or other social investments, ~~including, but not limited~~
5 ~~to~~, *such as* the following sources of funding:
- 6 (A) The Drug Medi-Cal Treatment Program (22 Cal. Code Regs.
7 51341.1, 51490.1, and 51516.1).
- 8 (B) The Mental Health Services Act, enacted by Proposition 63
9 at the November 2, 2004, general election, as amended.
- 10 (C) Funds provided for in connection with the implementation
11 of Chapter 15 of the Statutes of 2011.
- 12 (D) The Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act
13 (Stats. 2009, Ch. 608; Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 1228)
14 of Title 8 of Part 2).
- 15 (E) The tax credits established pursuant to Sections 12209,
16 17053.57, and 23657 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- 17 (F) The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development
18 funds, such as the Emergency Solutions Grant program (42 U.S.C.
19 Sec. 11371 et seq.).
- 20 (G) The federal Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive
21 Services for Veteran Families program (38 U.S.C. Sec. 2044).
- 22 (H) Social Innovation Funds established by the Corporation for
23 National and Community Service pursuant to Section 12653k of
24 Title 42 of the United States Code.
- 25 (I) The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant
26 Program (42 U.S.C. Sec. 3750 et seq.).
- 27 (3) Prioritize proposals that provide for all of the following:
- 28 (A) Mental health services, substance use disorder treatment
29 services, misdemeanor diversion programs, or some combination
30 thereof.
- 31 (B) Housing-related assistance that utilizes evidence-based
32 models, including, but not limited to, those recommended by the
33 federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.
34 Housing-related assistance may include, but is not limited to, the
35 following:
- 36 (i) Financial assistance, including security deposits, utility
37 payments, moving-cost assistance, and up to 24 months of rental
38 assistance.

- 1 (ii) Housing stabilization assistance, including case management,
2 relocation assistance, outreach and engagement, landlord
3 recruitment, housing navigation and placement, and credit repair.
4 (C) Other community-based supportive services, such as job
5 skills training, case management, and civil legal services.
6 (4) Prioritize proposals that leverage existing contracts,
7 partnerships, memoranda of understanding, or other formal
8 relationships to provide one or more of the services prioritized in
9 paragraph (3).
10 (5) Prioritize proposals put forth by a public agency in
11 partnership with a philanthropic or nonprofit organization.
12 (6) Prioritize proposals that promote interagency and regional
13 collaborations.
14 (7) Consider ways to promote services for people with offenses
15 identical or similar to those addressed by the Safe Neighborhoods
16 and Schools Act of 2014, without precluding assistance to a person
17 with other offenses in his or her criminal history.
18 (8) Consider geographic diversity.
19 (9) Consider appropriate limits for administrative costs and
20 overhead.
21 (10) Consider proposals that provide services to juveniles.
22 (11) Permit proposals to expand the capacity of an existing
23 program and prohibit proposals from using the fund to supplant
24 funding for an existing program.
25 (c) The committee shall consist of 13 members and shall be
26 composed as follows:
27 (1) A formerly incarcerated individual who has received or is
28 receiving mental health or substance use disorder treatment.
29 (2) A family member of a current or formerly incarcerated
30 individual.
31 (3) A mental health expert, appointed by the Senate Committee
32 on Rules.
33 (4) A substance use disorders expert, appointed by the Speaker
34 of the Assembly.
35 (5) A housing programs expert.
36 (6) An expert on homelessness.
37 (7) Two community-based supportive service providers with
38 experience in providing services to formerly incarcerated
39 individuals and reducing recidivism.
40 (8) A community supervision expert.

- 1 (9) An academic expert with a history of research and expertise
- 2 on the best practices for reducing recidivism.
- 3 (10) A member of the board.
- 4 (11) A public agency administrator.
- 5 (12) An additional expert, to be selected by the board.
- 6 SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that this act furthers
- 7 the intent of the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act enacted by
- 8 Proposition 47 at the November 4, 2014, general election.

O