

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2177

Introduced by Assembly Member Maienschein

February 18, 2016

An act to add Section 13835.9 to the Penal Code, relating to victims of crime.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2177, as amended, Maienschein. Victims of crime: federal Victims of Crime Act. Act funding: advisory committee.

Existing law requires the Office of Emergency Services to make available various funds to programs that provide supportive services to the victims of crime.

This bill would establish the Victims of Crime Act Funding Advisory Committee, composed of 17 specified members who are appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Governor. The bill would require the office to seek the recommendation of the committee regarding the distribution of funds received by the state pursuant to the federal Victims of Crime Act, also known as VOCA, before make a distribution, of any kind, of those funds. The bill would specifically require the committee to comply with Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

~~Existing law encourages the Department of Justice to utilize federal Victims of Crimes Act (VOCA) funds to implement provisions of law relating to the Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation regarding the transparency of the Office of Emergency Services' distribution process for federal Victims of Crime Act grant funding.~~

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 13835.9 is added to the Penal Code, to
2 read:

3 13835.9. (a) The Office of Emergency Services shall seek the
4 recommendation of the Victims of Crime Act Funding Advisory
5 Committee, established by this section, regarding the distribution
6 of funds received by the state pursuant to the federal Victims of
7 Crime Act, also known as VOCA, before make a distribution, of
8 any kind, of those funds.

9 (b) (1) The Victims of Crime Act Funding Advisory Committee
10 is hereby established within the Office of Emergency Services and
11 shall be composed of the following 17 members who are appointed
12 by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Governor:

- 13 (A) One member who represents law enforcement.
- 14 (B) Eight members who have been a victim of a crime.
- 15 (C) Eight members who represent the interests of organizations
16 that specialize in providing services to the victims of crime.
- 17 (2) The committee shall elect a chairperson from its membership.
- 18 (3) The members shall serve without compensation.
- 19 (4) The committee shall comply with the Bagley-Keene Open
20 Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of
21 Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government
22 Code).

23 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
24 ~~legislation regarding the transparency of the Office of Emergency~~
25 ~~Services' distribution process for federal Victims of Crime Act~~
26 ~~grant funding.~~