

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 26, 2000  
AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 10, 2000  
AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 1, 2000  
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 13, 2000

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 2183**

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**Introduced by Senator Soto**

March 16, 2000

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An act relating to trauma intervention, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 2183, as amended, Soto. Trauma intervention.

Under existing law, the Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP) funds, among other programs, various programs relating to victims services.

This bill would appropriate ~~\$1,700,000~~ \$1,550,000 from the General Fund to OCJP for the purpose of operating, for the first year of a 3-year pilot program, an expanded version of a child trauma reduction pilot program that currently provides trauma and grief intervention to students.

*The bill would require the Legislative Analyst Office to conduct an evaluation of the program and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 from the General Fund to the Legislative Analyst Office for the purpose of conducting this evaluation.*

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 hereby finds and  
2 declares as follows:

3 (a) The Office of Criminal Justice Planning currently  
4 funds a child trauma reduction pilot program in one  
5 school cluster consisting of one senior high school and two  
6 feeder junior high schools in northwest Pasadena that  
7 provides trauma and grief intervention services.

8 (b) The pilot program identifies youth that are in need  
9 of postviolence and postdisaster mental health services.  
10 Many of the students who participated in this program  
11 suffered severe and debilitating chronic Posttraumatic  
12 Stress Disorder and had lost their motivation for learning.

13 (c) The pilot program has been successful in reducing  
14 post-traumatic stress symptoms and in improving  
15 classroom behavior and academic achievement.

16 (d) The pilot program shall be extended from one to  
17 five clusters, two of which would be located in northern  
18 California and three in southern California with specific  
19 sites selected by the project partners in conjunction with  
20 the Office of Criminal Justice Planning.

21 SEC. 2. (a) The sum of one million—seven—hundred  
22 *five hundred fifty* thousand dollars—~~(\$1,700,000)~~  
23 ~~(\$1,550,000)~~ is hereby appropriated for one year from the  
24 General Fund to the Office of Criminal Justice Planning;  
25 ~~without regard to fiscal year~~, for the purpose of operating,  
26 for the first year of a three-year pilot program, an  
27 expanded version of the child trauma reduction pilot  
28 program that currently provides trauma and grief  
29 intervention in one cluster consisting of one high school  
30 and two junior high schools in northwest Pasadena. The  
31 program shall be expanded from one to five clusters, two  
32 of which would be located in northern California and  
33 three in southern California with specific sites selected by  
34 the project partners in conjunction with the Office of  
35 Criminal Justice Planning. In selecting the five sites for  
36 implementation of the program, the Office of Criminal  
37 Justice Planning and the project partners shall consider:



1 (1) The amount of crime and violence to which  
2 students are exposed in the surrounding community.

3 (2) The ability of the program managers to develop a  
4 coordinated plan with school and community mental  
5 health services, local victim-witness assistance programs,  
6 and local law enforcement officials.

7 (3) Approval of the program by the governing school  
8 district.

9 (b) (1) The program shall include an evaluation  
10 component *wherein the Legislative Analyst Office shall*  
11 *conduct, or contract with another entity to conduct, an*  
12 *evaluation* in which students treated in the program are  
13 compared against a control group. *The sum of one*  
14 *hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) is hereby*  
15 *appropriated from the General Fund to the Legislative*  
16 *Analyst Office for the purpose of conducting this*  
17 *evaluation.*

18 (2) The Office of Criminal Justice Planning shall  
19 report on the program to the Legislature annually, on an  
20 interim basis, and shall provide a full report by February  
21 1, 2004. *This report shall include, but not be limited to, a*  
22 *cost benefit analysis and a recommendation with cost*  
23 *component on implementing the program statewide.*

24 (3) The evaluation by the ~~Office of Criminal Justice~~  
25 ~~Planning~~ *Legislative Analyst Office* shall assess delivery  
26 and achievement of program objectives, *including*  
27 *enrollment rates of program participants in*  
28 *postsecondary institutions.*

29 (4) The onsite program partners shall conduct  
30 intervention outcome analyses within and across sites and  
31 ~~shall report then to the Office of Criminal Justice~~  
32 ~~Planning~~ *shall then report to the Legislative Analyst*  
33 *Office*, based on the following domains:

34 (A) Psychological distress.

35 (B) School performance, *including attendance, class*  
36 *failure rates, dropout rates, and grade point average*  
37 *(GPA).*

38 (C) Social behavior, *including violent, aggressive, and*  
39 *classroom disruptive behaviors.*



1 (D) Behavioral and functional disturbance, *including*  
2 *chronic posttraumatic stress disorder and attention*  
3 *deficit symptoms.*

4 (E) Coping and adjustment, *including disciplinary*  
5 *actions and family functioning.*

6 (5) The evaluation shall include a cost-benefit analysis  
7 with regard to public safety, education, and health service  
8 benefits.

9 *(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that, with respect*  
10 *to future funding, alternative funding options be pursued*  
11 *and no appropriation be made from the General Fund for*  
12 *this program unless the evaluation required by this act*  
13 *demonstrates the feasibility of statewide implementation*  
14 *of the program.*

