
SENATE BILL 5945

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Warnick, Sheldon, King, Conway, and Honeyford

1 AN ACT Relating to creation of a pilot project to reduce youth
2 gang involvement, crime, and violence in eastern Washington; and
3 making an appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The sum of one million four hundred
6 forty-eight thousand dollars from the state general fund for fiscal
7 year 2020 and the sum of one million four hundred forty-eight
8 thousand dollars from the state general fund for fiscal year 2021, or
9 so much thereof as may be necessary, are each appropriated to the
10 department of commerce and are provided solely for the department to
11 provide a grant to building bridges east, a nonprofit agency, to
12 reduce youth gang involvement, crime, and violence in eastern
13 Washington. The funding provided in this subsection must be used to
14 contract for the operation of the el nuevo camino pilot projects for
15 Moses Lake, Mattawa, Quincy, Othello, Toppenish, Wapato, Zillah,
16 western lower valley in Yakima county, Kennewick, Richland, and
17 Pasco.

18 (2) The department must adopt policies and procedures to
19 administer the el nuevo camino pilot project and track compliance and
20 outcomes.

21 (3) The grant recipient must:

1 (a) Provide antigang services in eastern Washington;

2 (b) Pledge and provide a minimum of thirty percent of matching
3 funds over the 2019-2021 biennium;

4 (c) Establish a coordinated effort with committed partners,
5 including law enforcement, prosecutors, mental health practitioners,
6 and schools;

7 (d) Demonstrate a clear plan to engage in long-term antigang
8 efforts after the conclusion of the pilot project;

9 (e) Work to reduce youth gang crime and violence by implementing
10 the comprehensive gang model of the federal juvenile justice and
11 delinquency prevention act of 1974;

12 (f) Increase mental health services to unserved and underserved
13 youth by implementing the best practice youth mental health model of
14 the national center for mental health and juvenile justice;

15 (g) Work to keep high-risk youth in school, reenroll dropouts,
16 and improve academic performance and behavior by engaging in a grass
17 roots team approach in schools with the most serious youth violence
18 and mental health problems, which must include a unique and
19 identified team in each district participating in the project;

20 (h) Hire a project manager and quality assurance coordinator;

21 (i) Adhere to recommended quality control standards for
22 Washington state research-based juvenile offender programs as set
23 forth by the Washington state institute for public policy;

24 (j) Provide mentoring services for ten juvenile rehabilitation
25 parolees; and

26 (k) Report to the department by September 1, 2020, and September
27 1, 2021, with the following:

28 (i) The number of youth and adults served through the project and
29 the types of services accessed and received;

30 (ii) The number of youth satisfactorily completing chemical
31 dependency treatment in the county;

32 (iii) The number of youth satisfactorily completing mental health
33 treatment in each county;

34 (iv) The estimated change in gang participation and gang
35 violence;

36 (v) The estimated change in dropout and graduation rates;

37 (vi) The estimated change in overall crime rates and crimes
38 typical of gang activity;

39 (vii) The estimated change in recidivism for youth offenders in
40 the county; and

1 (viii) Other information required by the department or otherwise
2 pertinent to the pilot project.

3 (4) The department shall report the information from subsection
4 (3)(k) of this section and other relevant data to the governor and
5 appropriate committees of the legislature by October 1, 2020, and
6 October 1, 2021.

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