



General Assembly

Bill No. 5047

February Session, 2006

LCO No. 661

00661_____

Referred to Committee on Public Safety and Security

Introduced by:

REP. WARD, 86th Dist.

SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE URBAN VIOLENCE REDUCTION
GRANT PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Grant" means the Urban Violence Reduction Grant;
- 3 (2) "Eligible agency" means a nonprofit agency or agencies
4 authorized by a municipality to apply for and administer a grant on its
5 behalf;
- 6 (3) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
7 Management.
- 8 (b) There is established an Urban Violence Reduction Grant
9 Program to reduce urban youth violence by providing programs and
10 services to youth in Connecticut's urban centers. The program shall be
11 administered by the Office of Policy and Management.

12 (c) The secretary shall, within available appropriations, award such
13 grants based upon competitive proposals submitted and evaluated as
14 provided in this section, except that the cities of Bridgeport, Hartford
15 and New Haven shall each receive annually, a grant of seven hundred
16 fifty thousand dollars, within available appropriations, and the cities
17 of New London and Waterbury shall each receive annually, a grant of
18 five hundred thousand dollars, within available appropriations. Grants
19 may be made to a municipality or to one or more eligible agencies
20 acting jointly on behalf of a municipality. Notwithstanding the
21 provisions of this section, in the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2007,
22 and in each fiscal year thereafter, the amount payable to each
23 municipality in accordance with this section shall be reduced
24 proportionately in the event that the total amount payable to all
25 municipalities exceeds the amount appropriated.

26 (d) Grants shall be used to provide appropriate programs and
27 services for youth between twelve and eighteen years of age, inclusive.
28 Eligible programs and services shall include, but not be limited to: (1)
29 Mentoring, (2) tutoring and enrichment activities, (3) social and
30 cultural activities, (4) athletic and recreational opportunities, and (5)
31 training in problem-solving, decision-making, conflict resolution, peer
32 counseling and similar topics designed to reduce youth violence.
33 Grantees shall provide for parental and youth involvement in the
34 planning and operations of the program on an ongoing basis.

35 (e) The Office of Policy and Management shall publish a notice of
36 grant availability and solicit competitive proposals under the program
37 for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2006, and each fiscal year
38 thereafter. Municipalities and eligible agencies acting on behalf of a
39 municipality may file a grant application with the Office of Policy and
40 Management on such forms and at such times as the secretary
41 prescribes. Applications filed by eligible agencies acting on behalf of a
42 municipality shall include the endorsement of the chief elected official
43 of such municipality.

44 (f) The Office of Policy and Management shall review all grant
45 applications received and determine which applications shall be
46 funded and at what funding levels. Criteria for such decisions shall be
47 established by the secretary and included in the notice of grant
48 availability.

49 (g) The cities of Bridgeport, New Haven, Hartford, New London
50 and Waterbury shall annually submit a plan for the use of the funds
51 granted to such city, and such plan shall be subject to the approval of
52 the secretary. The plan shall be in such form, and contain such
53 information, as the secretary shall prescribe. No funds shall be
54 awarded to a city named in this subsection unless such city has an
55 approved plan for the fiscal year for which the funds are being
56 granted.

57 (h) The secretary may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter
58 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the provisions of this section.

59 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) (a) There shall be a State Urban
60 Violence Task Force, within the Division of State Police of the
61 Department of Public Safety, that shall conduct and coordinate
62 investigations in connection with crimes of violence.

63 (b) The policy board of the State-Wide Narcotics Task Force, as set
64 forth in subsection (a) of section 29-179 of the general statutes, shall
65 constitute the policy board of the State Urban Violence Task Force and,
66 under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Safety, shall provide
67 assistance in the formulation of policies and operating procedures and
68 coordination of the activities of the State Urban Violence Task Force
69 with other law enforcement agencies within the state.

70 (c) The State Urban Violence Task Force may conduct any
71 investigation under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Safety,
72 or his designee, at any place within the state it deems necessary.

73 (d) Nothing contained in subsection (a) or (b) of this section shall

74 supersede, repeal or limit any power, duty or function of the executive
75 branch or any other department or agency of the state, or any political
76 subdivision thereof, as prescribed by law.

77 (e) The State Urban Violence Task Force may request and receive
78 from any federal, state or local agency, such cooperation and assistance
79 in the performance of its duties, including the temporary assignment
80 of personnel to the State Urban Violence Task Force that may be
81 necessary for the task force to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

82 (f) The Commissioner of Public Safety may select such personnel
83 from any municipality of the state as it deems necessary to act
84 temporarily as special state policemen to carry out the duties of the
85 State Urban Violence Task Force.

86 (g) A municipal police officer, while assigned to duty with the State
87 Urban Violence Task Force and working at the direction of the
88 Commissioner of Public Safety, or his designee, shall, when acting in
89 the scope of his authority, have the same powers, duties, privileges
90 and immunities as are conferred upon him as a state police officer.

91 (h) Each municipality shall be responsible for the full payment of
92 compensation of such of its personnel temporarily assigned to the State
93 Urban Violence Task Force and such salary shall be payable to the
94 assigned personnel while on duty with the task force.

95 (i) For purposes of indemnification of such personnel and their
96 municipalities against any losses, damages or liabilities arising out of
97 the service and activities of the task force, personnel while assigned to,
98 and performing the duties of, the task force shall be deemed to be
99 acting as employees of the state.

100 (j) The Commissioner of Public Safety may apply for and shall
101 administer any federal, state or private appropriations or grant funds
102 made available for the operation of the task force.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]