



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7245

LCO No. 4639

* HB07245KIDAPP030607 *

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

**AN ACT CONCERNING A GANG PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM
AND TASKFORCE.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) There is established a gang
2 prevention grant program to provide grants to municipalities in order
3 to reduce gang participation and gang violence. The program shall be
4 administered by the Office of Workforce Competitiveness, in
5 conjunction with the youth futures committee established pursuant to
6 section 1 of public act 06-182.

7 (b) The Office of Workforce Competitiveness shall award grants
8 under this section for programs and services that provide (1)
9 community-based and research-based prevention programs, and (2)
10 educational and employment activities, including life skills training,
11 positive youth development and leadership and job training.

12 (c) Municipalities shall submit to the Office of Workforce
13 Competitiveness a plan for the use of the grants and such plan shall be
14 subject to the approval of the director of the Office of Workforce
15 Competitiveness. The plan shall be in such form, and contain such

16 information, as the director prescribes. The director, in consultation
17 with the youth futures committee, shall review grant applications
18 received and determine which grant applications to fund and at what
19 funding level.

20 (d) The director of the Office of Workforce Competitiveness shall
21 adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general
22 statutes, to carry out the provisions of this section.

23 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a gang
24 prevention task force to develop a plan for early intervention and gang
25 prevention. Such plan shall include: (1) Bullying prevention programs
26 that protect students and remove the pressure for youths to join gangs;
27 (2) intervention strategies for at-risk youths to keep them in school or
28 at a job with supervision; and (3) research-based programs that
29 provide services for juvenile offenders in gangs and assistance for
30 families to prevent siblings of juvenile offenders from joining gangs.
31 Such plan shall include goals, benchmarks and focus on research-based
32 prevention programs that involve collaboration among police, social
33 services and community agencies. As used in this section, "prevention"
34 means policies and programs that promote healthy, safe and
35 productive lives and reduce the likelihood of crime, violence,
36 substance abuse, illness, academic failure and other socially
37 destructive behaviors, and "research-based prevention" means those
38 prevention programs that have been rigorously evaluated and are
39 found to be effective or represent best practices.

40 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

41 (1) One municipal police chief and one municipal chief elected
42 official each appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

43 (2) One school superintendent and one school principal each
44 appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

45 (3) One school social worker appointed by the majority leader of the
46 House of Representatives;

47 (4) One school psychologist appointed by the majority leader of the
48 Senate;

49 (5) One member of a nonprofit organization serving children and
50 youth and one member representing a church or religious organization
51 each appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives;

52 (6) One local or regional health director and one school nurse each
53 appointed by the minority leader of Senate;

54 (7) One parent and one representative of the business community
55 each appointed by the Governor;

56 (8) The executive director of the Court Support Services Division of
57 the judicial branch, or the executive director's designee; and

58 (9) A judge of the probate court, appointed by the Chief Justice.

59 (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
60 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
61 filled by the appointing authority.

62 (d) The chief of police and the chief elected official shall serve as the
63 chairpersons of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the
64 first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no later than sixty
65 days after the effective date of this section.

66 (e) Not later than July 1, 2008, the task force shall submit the plan
67 along with recommendations for legislation to the joint standing
68 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
69 relating to education and appropriations and the select committee of
70 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
71 children, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
72 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it
73 submits such report or July 1, 2008, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

KID

Joint Favorable C/R

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