



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 397

January Session, 2021

Substitute Senate Bill No. 572

Senate, April 12, 2021

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. BRADLEY of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE TEAMS,
REENTRY CENTERS AND POLICE OFFICER TRAINING.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "mental health professional" has the same meaning as provided in
3 section 31-294k of the general statutes and "public safety agency" and
4 "public safety answering point" have the same meanings as provided in
5 section 28-25 of the general statutes.

6 (b) Not later than January 1, 2022, the Office of Policy and
7 Management shall administer grants to each municipality that forms
8 community response teams to work with the mobile crisis teams
9 established by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction
10 Services. The community response teams shall (1) be led by a mental
11 health professional and respond to emergency and nonemergency 9-1-1
12 calls for assistance with welfare checks, mental health crises, substance
13 abuse emergencies or issues related to homelessness, and (2) operate in

14 collaboration with the public safety answering point and public safety
15 agencies serving such municipality and be integrated with the
16 dispatching of emergency services.

17 (c) Not later than one year from the date a municipality receives a
18 grant pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, the
19 chief executive officer of the municipality shall submit a report to the
20 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
21 matters relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the
22 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, concerning the impact
23 of the municipality's community response teams in assisting with
24 emergency and nonemergency 9-1-1 calls and with community
25 interactions.

26 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) Not later than January 1, 2022,
27 the Department of Correction shall administer grants to each
28 municipality that establishes a reentry center to promote the successful
29 transition of pretrial, paroled or recently discharged offenders from
30 incarceration to the community by connecting such offenders with
31 support services and programs and other available resources in the
32 community. The reentry center shall serve as drop-off location for such
33 offenders released by the department to facilitate their connection to
34 such support services and programs and other resources on the day of
35 release.

36 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) The Police Officer Standards and
37 Training Council, established under section 7-294b of the general
38 statutes, shall (1) study the current curriculum in each police basic or
39 review training conducted by the Division of State Police within the
40 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or by the
41 council relative to interactions with individuals with a mental,
42 intellectual or physical disability, mental health awareness and practices
43 and techniques that promote de-escalation, and (2) make
44 recommendations to expand opportunities for state and local police
45 officers to receive crisis intervention team patrol specialist training. Not
46 later than February 1, 2022, the council shall submit the results of such

47 study and any recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
 48 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety
 49 and security in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the
 50 general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1, Subsec. (a) was added for clarity, Subsec. (b)(2) was rewritten for statutory consistency and "the chief executive officer of" was added in Subsec. (c) for clarity.

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Policy & Mgmt., Off.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Various Municipalities	Potential Cost/ Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill requires the Office of Policy and Management to administer grants to municipalities that form community response teams to work with mobile response teams formed by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. It also requires the Department of Corrections to administer grants to municipalities that establish reentry centers for paroled, pre-trial or recently released offenders.

The bill does not specify a funding source for either grant, or establish a formula for grant distribution. Any impact would depend on the costs municipalities choose to incur for establishing either community response teams or reentry centers. It is anticipated that any cost would be at least partially offset by the revenue gain to municipalities from the grants established by the bill.

The bill also requires the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) to study the current training curriculum and make certain recommendations resulting in no fiscal impact to the state because POST has the expertise to meet the requirements of the bill.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 572*****AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNITY CRISIS RESPONSE TEAMS, REENTRY CENTERS AND POLICE OFFICER TRAINING.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to administer grants to municipalities that form community response teams to work with certain mobile crisis teams.

The bill also requires the Department of Correction (DOC) to administer grants to municipalities that establish a reentry center to help transition offenders from incarceration to the community by connecting them with support services and programs.

Finally, the bill requires the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POST) to study the current police basic and review training curriculum in certain areas.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAMS

The bill requires OPM to administer, by January 1, 2022, grants to municipalities that form community response teams to work with the mobile crisis teams established by the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. These teams must:

1. be led by a mental health professional and respond to emergency and non-emergency 911 calls for assistance with welfare checks, mental health crises, substance abuse emergencies, or issues related to homelessness and
2. collaboratively operate with the public safety answering point and public safety agencies serving the municipality and be

integrated with emergency services dispatching.

Under the bill, a “mental health professional” is a board-certified psychiatrist or a licensed psychologist who has experience diagnosing and treating post-traumatic stress disorder (CGS § 31-294k).

Within one year after receiving a grant, the bill requires a municipality’s chief executive officer to submit a report to the Public Safety and Security Committee concerning the impact of its community response teams on assisting emergency and nonemergency 911 calls and with community interactions.

REENTRY CENTERS

The bill requires DOC to administer, by January 1, 2022, grants to municipalities that establish a reentry center to promote the successful transition of pretrial, paroled, or recently discharged offenders from incarceration to the community by connecting them with support services and programs and other available community resources. The reentry center must serve as a drop-off location for offenders released by the department to facilitate their connection to those resources on their days of release.

POLICE TRAINING STUDY

The bill requires POST to study the current police basic and review training curriculum conducted by the State Police or POST relative to (1) interactions with people with a mental, intellectual, or physical disability; (2) mental health awareness; and (3) de-escalation practices and techniques. POST must also make recommendations to expand opportunities for state and local police officers to receive crisis intervention team patrol specialist training. By February 1, 2022, POST must submit its results and recommendations to the Public Safety and Security Committee.

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

sHB 6597, reported favorably by the Public Safety and Security

Committee, requires POST to, among other things, develop a training curriculum for police officers on interacting with people who have mental or physical disabilities by July 1, 2022. Beginning October 1, 2022, each police basic or review training program conducted or administered by POST, the State Police, or a municipal police department must include this curriculum.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 0 (03/24/2021)