
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 312

Session of
1983

INTRODUCED BY HOFFEL, PICCOLA, BLAUM AND JAROLIN, MARCH 1, 1983

SENATOR SNYDER, JUDICIARY, IN SENATE, AS AMENDED, JUNE 13, 1984

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 22, 1978 (P.L.1166, No.274),
2 entitled "An act establishing the Pennsylvania Commission on
3 Crime and Delinquency, providing for its powers and duties
4 establishing several advisory committees within the
5 commission and providing for their powers and duties,"
6 authorizing a crime prevention program; providing for
7 technical and financial assistance to law enforcement
8 agencies; and making an appropriation.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The preamble of the act of November 22, 1978
12 (P.L.1166, No.274), referred to as the Pennsylvania Commission
13 on Crime and Delinquency Law, is amended to read:

14 The General Assembly finds and declares that:

15 (a) crime and delinquency are essentially State and local
16 problems;

17 (b) crime and delinquency are complex social phenomena
18 requiring the attention and efforts of the criminal justice
19 system, State and local governments, and private citizens alike;

20 (c) the establishment of appropriate goals, objectives and

1 standards for the reduction of crime and delinquency and for the
2 administration of justice must be a priority concern;

3 (d) the functions of the criminal justice system must be
4 coordinated more efficiently and effectively;

5 (e) the full and effective use of resources affecting State
6 and local criminal justice systems requires the complete
7 cooperation of State and local government agencies; [and]

8 (f) training, research, evaluation, technical assistance and
9 public education activities must be encouraged and focused on
10 the improvement of the criminal justice system and the
11 generation of new methods for the prevention and reduction of
12 crime and delinquency[.];

13 (g) the efforts of police to combat the incidence of crime
14 are enhanced substantially when communities take steps to reduce
15 the opportunity for crime through effective police leadership in
16 crime prevention planning, public education and the responsible
17 organization of community resources; and

18 (h) it is in the public interest for the Commonwealth to
19 establish a central crime prevention program to provide
20 leadership and technical and financial assistance to police
21 agencies to develop and maintain community crime prevention
22 initiatives.

23 Section 2. Section 1 of the act is amended by adding
24 definitions to read:

25 Section 1. Definitions.

26 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
27 have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
28 meanings given to them in this section:

29 * * *

30 "Crime prevention." The elimination or reduction of the

opportunity for criminal activity through the initiatives of agencies of local and State government undertaken in cooperation with members of the public.

"Governing body." The council in cities, boroughs and incorporated towns, the board of commissioners in townships of the first class, the board of supervisors in townships of the second class, the legislative policymaking body in counties and home rule municipalities or other general purpose units of government which may be created by the General Assembly, including councils of government organized pursuant to the act of July 12, 1972 (P.L.762, No.180), referred to as the Intergovernmental Cooperation Law.

"Local law enforcement agency." A police department created by a municipality pursuant to statute.

"Municipality." Every city, borough, county, incorporated town, township and home rule municipality or other general purpose unit of government which may be created by the General Assembly, including councils of government organized pursuant to the act of July 12, 1972 (P.L.762, No.180), referred to as the Intergovernmental Cooperation Law.

"State law enforcement agency." The Pennsylvania State Police.

Section 3. The act is amended by adding sections to read:
Section 3.1. Duties of the commission relative to crime prevention.

The commission shall have the power and its duty shall be:

(1) To develop Statewide strategies to implement crime prevention programs at the State and local level.

(2) To review State agency plans to ensure the coordination of the delivery of crime prevention services.

1 (3) To develop, coordinate and administer basic and
2 specialized crime prevention related training programs for
3 State and local law enforcement agency personnel on current
4 issues and techniques in the field of crime prevention.

5 (4) To provide leadership and on-site technical
6 assistance services to State agencies and local law
7 enforcement agencies in developing and implementing crime
8 prevention programs.

9 (5) To design, develop and make available to State
10 agencies and local law enforcement agencies the current
11 literature, publications and basic tools appropriate for the
12 effective implementation of crime prevention programs.

13 (6) To promote the involvement of community
14 organizations in the development and implementation of crime
15 prevention programs.

16 (7) To submit, on a biennial basis, a report to the
17 Governor and the General Assembly concerning the status of
18 crime prevention programs throughout the State.

19 ~~Section 3.2. Crime prevention financial assistance.~~ <—

20 ~~(a) Applications. The commission shall solicit and receive~~
21 ~~applications from local law enforcement agencies for financial~~
22 ~~assistance to implement crime prevention programs and allocate~~
23 ~~State funds to such applicants in accordance with the provisions~~
24 ~~of applicable statutes and regulations.~~

25 SECTION 3.2. GRANTS FOR CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS. <—

26 (A) AUTHORITY FOR GRANTS.--THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE THE
27 AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES THAT
28 SUBMIT APPROVED APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO
29 IMPLEMENT CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
30 PROVISIONS OF APPLICABLE STATUTES AND REGULATIONS.

1 (b) State Police applications.--The Pennsylvania State
2 Police may apply for and receive financial assistance under the
3 provisions of this section for the implementation of crime
4 prevention programs in:

5 (1) an area of the Commonwealth for which the State
6 Police serves as the principal law enforcement agency; or

7 (2) a municipality for which the chief of the local law
8 enforcement agency has made a written request to the State
9 Police to provide the principal coverage for crime prevention
10 services.

11 (c) Assurances and plan.--An application for financial
12 assistance under the provisions of this section shall contain
13 assurances that the applicant will submit semi-annual reports on
14 the progress of its crime prevention activities and will comply
15 with such other requirements that the commission may reasonably
16 adopt. The application shall also include a crime prevention
17 services plan containing, as a minimum, all of the following
18 elements:

19 (1) A description of the types of crime prevention
20 activities proposed to be conducted by the applicant and a
21 specification of the nature and extent of the direct
22 participation of community organizations in the proposed
23 activities.

24 (2) A description of the nature and extent of
25 participation by persons representing the business community
26 in the proposed activities and a specification of those
27 proposed activities which are intended to have an impact upon
28 those crimes affecting the local business community.

29 (3) A specific identification of the nature and types of
30 crimes upon which the proposed activities are intended to

impact and the level of impact the activities are projected to achieve.

(4) A description of the geographic area within which the proposed activities will be primarily conducted.

(d) Approval of application.--The commission may not approve an application for financial assistance under this section unless:

(1) the application has been duly authorized and approved in writing by the governing body of the municipality served by a local law enforcement agency applicant or by the Commissioner of the State Police in the case of a State law enforcement agency application; and

(2) the application has been reviewed and commented upon by an advisory committee composed of not less than ten residents of the municipality to be served under the application. The advisory committee referred to in this paragraph shall be appointed by the governing body of the municipality served by a local law enforcement agency applicant or by the Commanding Officer of the State Police installation for the jurisdiction to be served in the case of a State law enforcement agency application and shall be fairly representative of the interests of residents and business in the municipality.

~~(e) Allocation of funds. The commission shall make available not less than 80% of the State funds appropriated annually for the administration of this section for financial assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies for the payment of up to 50% of the salaries of employees of such agencies, but not fringe benefits, overtime compensation or bonuses, for a period not to exceed two years, provided such~~

<—

~~employees:~~

~~(1) are assigned responsibility on a full time basis for developing and implementing crime prevention programs as defined in this section in cooperation with community residents and businessmen; and~~

~~(2) have satisfactorily completed courses of instruction required by the commission and have been certified by the commission as crime prevention program specialists.~~

~~(f) Commission use of funds. The commission may retain the balance of the State funds appropriated annually for the administration of this section for the following purposes:~~

~~(1) To pay the costs of the commission's crime prevention training programs.~~

~~(2) To underwrite the commission's procurement and distribution of crime prevention related training materials and technical equipment to State and local law enforcement agencies, but the commission may require each such agency to pay up to 50% of the cost of materials and equipment furnished to it at its request.~~

~~(E) COMMISSION USE OF GRANT FUNDS.--THE COMMISSION MAY MAKE GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:~~

~~(1) TO PAY UP TO 50% OF THE SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES OF STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, BUT NOT FRINGE BENEFITS, OVERTIME COMPENSATION OR BONUSES, FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED TWO YEARS, PROVIDED SUCH EMPLOYEES:~~

~~(I) ARE ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY ON A FULL-TIME BASIS FOR DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS AS DEFINED IN THIS SECTION IN COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSMEN.~~

~~(II) SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION~~

1 REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSION AND OBTAIN CERTIFICATION FROM
2 THE COMMISSION AS CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM SPECIALISTS.

3 (2) TO PAY THE COSTS OF THE COMMISSION'S CRIME
4 PREVENTION TRAINING PROGRAMS.

5 (3) TO UNDERWRITE UP TO 50% OF THE COMMISSION'S
6 PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF CRIME PREVENTION RELATED
7 TRAINING MATERIALS AND TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT TO STATE AND LOCAL
8 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

9 ~~(g)~~ (F) Grant administration.--Grants of financial <—
10 assistance made under this section shall be subject to the
11 provisions of section 3(4) and (5).

12 ~~Section 4. The sum of \$600,000, or as much thereof as may be~~ <—
13 ~~necessary, is hereby specifically appropriated to the~~
14 ~~Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, for the fiscal~~
15 ~~year July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984, to carry out the provisions~~
16 ~~of this act.~~

17 SECTION 4. THE SUM OF \$200,000, OR AS MUCH THEREOF AS MAY BE <—
18 NECESSARY, IS HEREBY SPECIFICALLY APPROPRIATED TO THE
19 PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY, FOR THE FISCAL
20 YEAR JULY 1, 1984 TO JUNE 30, 1985, TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS
21 OF THIS ACT.

22 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, ~~1983~~ 1984. <—