
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1193 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY MASTRIANO, ROBINSON, MARTIN, BROOKS, PITTMAN,
GEBHARD AND REGAN, JUNE 1, 2022

REFERRED TO LAW AND JUSTICE, JUNE 1, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for law enforcement recovery
3 grants; establishing the Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot
4 Program and the Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program
5 Fund; and imposing duties on the Pennsylvania Commission on
6 Crime and Delinquency.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Part I of Title 44 of the Pennsylvania
10 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

11 CHAPTER 9

12 LAW ENFORCEMENT RECOVERY GRANTS

13 Sec.

14 901. Scope of chapter.

15 902. Findings and declarations.

16 903. Definitions.

17 904. Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program.

18 905. Administration of applications.

19 906. Award of grant.

20 907. Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program Fund.

1 908. Expiration.

2 § 901. Scope of chapter.

3 This chapter relates to law enforcement recovery grants
4 through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

5 § 902. Findings and declarations.

6 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

7 (1) The effects of COVID-19 and the ensuing shutdowns
8 had effects that reverberated across all sectors of our
9 society.

10 (2) The law enforcement agencies of this Commonwealth
11 have not been immune to these effects and are confronting a
12 significant crisis regarding the recruitment and retention of
13 law enforcement officers.

14 (3) Law enforcement agencies in urban, suburban and
15 rural parts of this Commonwealth currently face significant
16 vacancies in law enforcement officer positions, which are
17 projected to continue to worsen with increasing retirements
18 and a tight labor market in the wake of COVID-19.

19 (4) Compounding the issue of recruitment and retention
20 has been the rise in violent crime in this Commonwealth
21 dating back to 2020.

22 (5) According to the latest FBI crime statistics,
23 Pennsylvania has had the third highest increase in violent
24 crimes in the entire nation compared to 2019.

25 (6) In addition to the uptick in violent crime, drug
26 trafficking has accelerated and the proliferation of deadly
27 drugs such as fentanyl continues to overwhelm communities and
28 take lives.

29 (7) The establishment of the Law Enforcement Recovery
30 Grant Pilot Program will ensure that law enforcement agencies

1 have the resources to properly serve the communities of this
2 Commonwealth and save lives.

3 § 903. Definitions.

4 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
5 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
6 context clearly indicates otherwise:

7 "Commission." The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and
8 Delinquency.

9 "COVID-19." The novel coronavirus as identified in the
10 proclamation of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on
11 March 6, 2020, published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and
12 any renewal of the state of disaster emergency.

13 "Fund." The Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program
14 Fund established under section 907(a) (relating to Law
15 Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program Fund).

16 "Law enforcement agency." As follows:

17 (1) A government entity whose responsibilities include
18 enforcement of criminal laws or the investigation of
19 suspected criminal activity.

20 (2) The term includes any of the following:

21 (i) The Pennsylvania State Police.

22 (ii) The office of sheriff in this Commonwealth.

23 (iii) The police department of a county, region,
24 city, borough, incorporated town or township located in
25 this Commonwealth.

26 "Law enforcement officer." An officer or other employee of a
27 law enforcement agency:

28 (1) whose personal responsibilities include enforcement
29 of criminal laws or the investigation of suspected criminal
30 activity; and

1 (2) who is vested by law with a duty to maintain public
2 order or make arrests for offenses, whether or not that duty
3 extends to all offenses or is limited to specific offenses.

4 "Program." The Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program
5 established under section 904(a) (relating to Law Enforcement
6 Recovery Grant Pilot Program).

7 § 904. Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program.

8 (a) Establishment.--The Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot
9 Program is established and shall be administered by the
10 commission.

11 (b) Purpose.--The purpose of the program is to provide to
12 law enforcement agencies the opportunity to apply for grants to
13 address the critical needs in the communities in which they
14 serve, including the following:

15 (1) Strategies and incentives to recruit new law
16 enforcement officers.

17 (2) Strategies and incentives to retain current law
18 enforcement officers.

19 (3) Wellness initiatives for law enforcement agencies to
20 mitigate the significant mental and physical impacts of
21 responding to the rise of violent crime during the COVID-19
22 pandemic.

23 (4) Investments in technology and equipment to allow law
24 enforcement agencies to respond to the rise in violent crime
25 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

26 (5) Collaborative responses to violent crime and
27 violence related to drug trafficking resulting from the
28 COVID-19 pandemic.

29 § 905. Administration of applications.

30 (a) Applications.--A law enforcement agency shall submit an

1 application for a grant under the program in a form and manner
2 specified by the commission.

3 (b) Application period.--When grant money is made available
4 under the program during each fiscal year, the commission shall
5 begin to accept applications from law enforcement agencies for
6 the purposes specified under section 904(b) (relating to Law
7 Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program). The commission shall
8 provide notice of the application period and process on the
9 commission's publicly accessible Internet website. The
10 commission shall establish a deadline for the submission of
11 applications for law enforcement agencies during each fiscal
12 year.

13 (c) Review.--The commission shall review completed
14 applications for grants under the program and make the grant
15 awards in accordance with section 906 (relating to award of
16 grant). If a grant award is denied in whole or in part, the
17 commission shall provide the applicant with the reason for the
18 full or partial denial.
19 § 906. Award of grant.

20 (a) Criteria.--When determining grant awards to a law
21 enforcement agency under the program, the commission shall
22 consider the following criteria pertaining to the law
23 enforcement agency:

24 (1) Current staffing shortages.

25 (2) Population of the respective jurisdiction.

26 (3) Increases in the rate of violent crime in the
27 respective jurisdiction since calendar year 2019.

28 (4) Increases in the rate of drug offenses in the
29 respective jurisdiction since calendar year 2019.

30 (b) Awards.--A law enforcement agency may only apply for and

1 receive one grant award under the program.

2 § 907. Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot Program Fund.

3 (a) Establishment.--The Law Enforcement Recovery Grant Pilot
4 Program Fund is established as a special fund within the State
5 Treasury to be used for making grants under the program.

6 (b) Limitations.--A law enforcement agency may not receive a
7 grant award under the program in excess of \$2,500,000.

8 (c) Transfers.--In addition to any other money appropriated
9 to the commission for making grants under the program, the sum
10 of \$50,000,000 is transferred to the fund from money received by
11 the Commonwealth under section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan
12 Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2, 135 Stat. 4) and deposited into
13 the COVID-19 Response Restricted Account for the purpose of
14 making grants under the program.

15 (d) Remaining money.--

16 (1) Any money in the fund which remains unexpended,
17 uncommitted or unencumbered on the date of the deadline
18 established under section 905(b) (relating to administration
19 of applications) shall remain in the fund.

20 (2) The State Treasurer shall transfer any money
21 remaining in the fund which remains unexpended, uncommitted
22 or unencumbered on the date of the expiration of this chapter
23 to the General Fund.

24 § 908. Expiration.

25 This chapter shall expire December 31, 2024.

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.