
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6034

AN ACT CONCERNING PROJECT LONGEVITY.

SUMMARY

This bill expands the “Project Longevity Initiative” to Waterbury. Project Longevity is a comprehensive community-based initiative to reduce gun violence in Connecticut’s cities. The bill does so through a joint effort among community members, law enforcement, and social service providers to focus an anti-violence message on highly active street groups. The project is already in place in New Haven, Hartford, and Bridgeport.

Existing law requires the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) secretary to create a plan to implement the Project Longevity Initiative statewide. The bill requires the plan to, at a minimum, consider how to provide clients the project serves with access to courses and apprentice programs provided by a college, university, community college, or the Technical Education and Career System. By February 1, 2022, the secretary must submit the plan to the Public Safety and Security Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

IMPLEMENTATION

The bill requires the OPM secretary, to ensure or support implementing the project in Waterbury, to:

1. provide planning and management assistance to municipal officials in the city and
2. do anything necessary to apply for and accept federal funds allotted or available to the state under any federal act or program.

As under existing law for the other cities with the program, the secretary may use state and federal funds as appropriated for the project's implementation.

To implement the program, the bill also requires the secretary, or her designee, to consult with the following federal and state officials:

1. U.S. attorney for Connecticut,
2. chief state's attorney,
3. Department of Correction commissioner, and
4. Court Support Services Division executive director.

The secretary or her designee must also consult with Waterbury's mayor and clergy members, nonprofit service providers, and community leaders from the city.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 0 (03/24/2021)