

Public Safety and Security Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1162
AN ACT REQUIRING COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLES AND FUNDING
Title: COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMS TO COMBAT GUN VIOLENCE.
Vote Date: 3/16/2023
Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute
PH Date: 3/9/2023
File No.: 391

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Public Safety and Security Committee

Cosponsors:

Sen. Herron Gaston, 23rd Dist.

Rep. Fred Gee, 126th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill was written in order to establish a better working relationship between local law enforcement and the communities they serve through a community policing which will lead to safer streets in those communities. Substitute language was implemented better outlining how such a program would be implemented and carried out.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

James McGovern

Encourages this legislation to mandate age diversity prioritizing law enforcement to encourage those who likely lack confidence in law enforcement to actively participate and provide feedback to improve community relations.

Dr. Jonathan Gates, Trauma Surgeon at Hartford Hospital

Supports this legislation that would require municipal law enforcement units to hold quarterly meetings with representatives from social services and mental health agencies. He adds that hospital workers

and healthcare providers would also be an essential part of a comprehensive violence intervention and prevention program.

Johana Schubert, Program Director at Hartford Communities that Care

Supports this bill saying there can be no downside to law enforcement having a better understanding of the communities they serve by having access to credible messengers and meaningful collaboration can help better coordinate care and intervention efforts. They urge the passage of SB1162.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

Reported by: Nathan Vieira

Date: 3/28/2023