



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Raised Bill No. 1162**

LCO No. 5179



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:

(PS)

***AN ACT REQUIRING COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLES AND FUNDING  
COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMS TO COMBAT GUN VIOLENCE.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On or before October 1, 2023,  
2 and on a quarterly basis thereafter, each municipal law enforcement unit  
3 shall hold a meeting with stakeholders in the municipality such unit  
4 serves. The unit shall invite to such meetings, at a minimum,  
5 representatives from social services and mental health agencies and  
6 organizations that serve the municipality, representatives from  
7 organizations that seek to combat gun violence in the municipality,  
8 representatives from the judicial branch and one or more prosecutors  
9 serving the judicial district that includes the municipality. Such  
10 meetings shall seek to: (1) Encourage information sharing, including  
11 collection and sharing of data, among meeting participants; (2) develop  
12 partnerships and coordinated strategies among participants to reduce  
13 gun violence and crime in the municipality; and (3) improve the  
14 responsiveness and accountability of the law enforcement unit to the  
15 residents of the municipality, and improve the responsiveness of and  
16 provision of services by meeting participants to the residents of the

17 municipality, in order to better serve the municipality and reduce gun  
18 violence and crime in the municipality. Such meetings may occur more  
19 frequently than quarterly as determined by the unit. Such meetings shall  
20 be open to the public.

21       Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30,  
22 2024, and June 30, 2025, the Department of Emergency Services and  
23 Public Protection shall establish a pilot program to provide law  
24 enforcement units, as defined in section 7-294a of the general statutes,  
25 that serve a municipality with a population of one hundred thousand or  
26 more with funding to enhance community policing programs, in order  
27 to combat gun violence and build trust between law enforcement units  
28 and the communities they serve. If the department has sufficient funds,  
29 the department may make such program available to law enforcement  
30 units serving municipalities with populations of less than one hundred  
31 thousand that are experiencing increased gun violence.

32       (b) Not later than October 1, 2023, the Department of Emergency  
33 Services and Public Protection shall post, in a conspicuous place on the  
34 department's Internet web site, a description of the pilot program,  
35 including, but not limited to, eligibility criteria and the application  
36 process for the pilot program. A law enforcement unit shall apply for  
37 such program on such forms and in such manner as determined by the  
38 department.

39       (c) Each law enforcement unit that receives funding under the  
40 program shall report to the department by July 1, 2025, on how the unit  
41 has used the funds and whether such use impacted gun violence in the  
42 municipality and the unit's relationship with the community.

43       (d) Not later than January 1, 2026, the department shall report, in  
44 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
45 the following information to the joint standing committee of the General  
46 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety: (1) The  
47 total amount of funds expended for the program, (2) the amounts  
48 provided to specific law enforcement units, and (3) a summary of the

49 reports received by the department pursuant to subsection (c) of this  
50 section.

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

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require law enforcement units to hold community roundtables and establish a pilot program to fund community policing programs in certain municipalities, to reduce gun violence and improve relationships between law enforcement units and the communities they serve.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*