

1-1 By: Hagenbuch S.B. No. 2177
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 10, 2025; March 24, 2025, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Criminal Justice;
1-4 May 5, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,
1-5 Nays 0; May 5, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Flores	X		
1-9	Parker	X		
1-10	Hagenbuch	X		
1-11	Hinojosa of Hidalgo	X		
1-12	Huffman	X		
1-13	King	X		
1-14	Miles	X		

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the creation of a grant program to assist local law
1-18 enforcement agencies in solving violent and sexual offenses.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 772, Government Code, is
1-21 amended by adding Section 772.00791 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 772.00791. GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST LOCAL LAW
1-23 ENFORCEMENT IN SOLVING VIOLENT AND SEXUAL OFFENSES. (a) In this
1-24 section:

1-25 (1) "Clearance by arrest" means that, with respect to
1-26 an offense reported to a law enforcement agency, the agency:

1-27 (A) has:

1-28 (i) arrested and charged at least one
1-29 suspect with the commission of the offense; and

1-30 (ii) turned the suspect over to the court
1-31 for prosecution; or

1-32 (B) has cited an individual younger than 18 years
1-33 of age and required the individual to appear in juvenile court or
1-34 before another juvenile authority with respect to the offense,
1-35 regardless of whether an arrest occurred.

1-36 (2) "Clearance by exception" means that, with respect
1-37 to an offense reported to a law enforcement agency, the agency:

1-38 (A) has confirmed the suspect's identity;

1-39 (B) has sufficient evidence for arrest;

1-40 (C) knows the suspect's specific location; and

1-41 (D) has encountered factors beyond law
1-42 enforcement control that hinder the arrest, charging, and
1-43 prosecution of the suspect.

1-44 (3) "Clearance rate" means, with respect to an offense
1-45 or category of offense reported to a law enforcement agency, a
1-46 fraction:

1-47 (A) the numerator of which is the number of
1-48 offenses cleared by the agency through clearance by arrest and
1-49 clearance by exception; and

1-50 (B) the denominator of which is the total number
1-51 of offenses reported to the agency.

1-52 (4) "Criminal justice division" means the criminal
1-53 justice division established under Section 772.006.

1-54 (5) "Sexual offense" means an offense under any of the
1-55 following provisions of the Penal Code:

1-56 (A) Section 21.11 (indecentcy with a child);

1-57 (B) Section 22.011 (sexual assault); or

1-58 (C) Section 22.021 (aggravated sexual assault).

1-59 (6) "Violent offense" means an offense under any of
1-60 the following provisions of the Penal Code:

1-61 (A) Section 19.02 (murder);

(B) Section 19.03 (capital murder);
 (C) Section 20.04 (aggravated kidnapping);
 (D) Section 22.02(a)(2) (aggravated assault with
a deadly weapon); or
 (E) Section 29.03 (aggravated robbery).

(b) This section applies only to a law enforcement agency
employing one or more peace officers described by Article 2A.001(1)
or (3), Code of Criminal Procedure.

(c) The criminal justice division shall establish and
administer a grant program through which a law enforcement agency
may apply for a grant designed to improve clearance rates for
violent and sexual offenses.

(d) The criminal justice division shall establish:
(1) eligibility criteria for grant applications;
(2) grant application procedures;
(3) guidelines relating to grant amounts; and
(4) procedures for evaluating grant applications.

(e) Grant money awarded under this section may be used to
pay for:

(1) hiring, training, and retaining personnel to:
(A) investigate violent and sexual offenses;
(B) collect, process, and forensically test
evidence; or

(C) analyze violent and sexual offenses,
including temporal and geographical trends;

(2) acquiring, upgrading, or replacing technology or
equipment related to evidence collection, evidence processing, or
forensic testing; and

(3) upgrading record management systems to achieve
compliance with the reporting requirements under Subsection (f).

(f) A law enforcement agency that receives a grant awarded
under the program annually shall report:

(1) the clearance rate and the percentage of the
clearance rate that is clearance by arrest and the percentage that
is clearance by exception for:

(A) violent offenses;
(B) sexual offenses; and
(C) each offense listed in Subsection (a)(5) or
(6);

(2) the average duration between the date of the
offense and the date of clearance for:

(A) violent offenses;
(B) sexual offenses; and
(C) each offense listed in Subsection (a)(5) or
(6); and

(3) the percentage of the grant amount used for each
authorized use listed in Subsection (e).

(g) The criminal justice division shall periodically
evaluate the practices employed by grant recipients to identify
policies and procedures that have successfully improved clearance
rates for violent and sexual offenses. The division may contract
with a third party to conduct an evaluation under this subsection.

(h) The criminal justice division shall include in the
biennial report required by Section 772.006(a)(9) a detailed
reporting of the results and performance of the grant program
administered under this section.

(i) A governmental entity may not reduce the amount of funds
provided to a law enforcement agency because the agency received a
grant under this section.

(j) The criminal justice division may use any revenue
available for purposes of this section.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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