

# PUBLIC SAFETY

The Budget includes the following changes related to public safety.

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## RECIDIVISM REDUCTION PROPOSALS

Chapter 310, Statutes of 2013 (SB 105), provided \$315 million General Fund for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to house inmates in contracted facilities to avoid early release and comply with the court-imposed population cap. It specified that if a sufficient time extension were granted by the court and all funding was not used for increased prison capacity, the first \$75 million of any savings would be transferred into the Recidivism Reduction Fund created by SB 105. Savings beyond the \$75 million would be split, with half going to the Recidivism Reduction Fund and half going to the General Fund. As a result, \$91 million is available in the Recidivism Reduction Fund in 2014-15.

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is provided \$42 million Recidivism Reduction Fund and \$4.2 million Inmate Welfare Fund for the following recidivism reduction efforts:

- Community Reentry Facilities—\$20 million for community reentry programs targeting mentally ill offenders who are within six to twelve months of release and focusing on services needed for successful reintegration into the community, such as work training, education, practical living skills, and substance use disorder

and mental health treatment. These facilities could also serve as transitional housing and intermediate sanctions for probationers.

- Substance Use Disorder Treatment Expansion in Prisons—\$11.8 million to expand treatment to all non-reentry hub prisons over a two-year period.
- Cognitive Behavioral Treatment at Contracted Facilities—\$3.8 million for rehabilitative programming at in-state contract facilities, similar to programming at reentry hubs.
- Case Managers at Parolee Outpatient Clinics—\$2.5 million to establish a three-year pilot program that includes case management social workers assisting parolee participants in managing basic needs, including housing, job training, and medical and mental health care.
- Grants to Community Colleges for Inmate Education—\$2 million one-time funding to provide coursework geared toward improving inmates' ability to find employment upon release.
- California Leadership Academy Planning Grant—\$865,000 one-time funding to develop a plan for a facility with specialized programming aimed at reducing recidivism for 18-to-25 year old male inmates.
- Independent Evaluation of Integrated Services for Mentally Ill Parolees Program—\$500,000 one-time funding to contract with an independent entity to do an evaluation of the program's effectiveness in reducing recidivism.
- Innovative Programming Grants—\$2.5 million one-time funding, of which \$2 million is funded from the Inmate Welfare Fund, to expand non-profit programs that have demonstrated success and focus on offender responsibility and restorative justice principles.
- Cal-ID Expansion—\$2.2 million Inmate Welfare Fund to expand the current identification card program at the reentry hubs to all prisons to prepare inmates for release.

The Board of State and Community Corrections is provided \$28 million Recidivism Reduction Fund for the following recidivism reduction grant programs:

- Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction Grants—\$18 million one-time funding for a competitive grant program with funding allocated to counties in the first year and available for expenditure for three years.

- Community Recidivism Reduction Grants—\$8 million one-time funding for nongovernmental entities engaged in a broad scope of recidivism reduction efforts in the community.
- Grants to Cities with the Highest Rates of Serious Crimes—\$2 million one-time funding to provide grants to cities with the highest rates of murder, rape, and robbery.

An additional \$21 million Recidivism Reduction Fund is provided for the following programs:

- Court Programs—\$15 million one-time funding for competitive grants for operation of court programs known to reduce recidivism and enhance public safety, such as collaborative courts and pretrial and risk assessment programs.
- Social Innovation Bonds—\$5 million to facilitate the use of social innovation financing for recidivism reduction programs, such as housing for former felons. Expenditure of these funds is subject to future legislation.
- Workforce Investment Boards—\$1 million one-time funding for a competitive grant program for workforce training and job development to serve the reentry population.

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## **TRIAL COURT SECURITY**

2011 Public Safety Realignment shifted responsibility for trial court security costs to counties and allocates funding based on historical court security expenditures. In addition, the state is required to provide annual funding for new administratively required activities in realigned programs that have an overall effect of increasing county costs.

The Budget includes \$1 million General Fund to address potential increased trial court security costs if a new court facility built by the state and opened after October 9, 2011, necessitates a different level of court security than the facility it replaced or was otherwise closed. A county must demonstrate the need for increased trial court security staff as a result of the new courthouse and approved requests will be adjusted annually.

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## **LOCAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACILITIES**

Legislation authorizes \$500 million of additional lease revenue bond financing authority for the acquisition, design, and construction of local criminal justice facilities. Use of this

financing is focused on improved housing with an emphasis on expanding program and treatment space as necessary to manage the adult offender population. This financing may be used to replace existing housing capacity, realizing only a minimal increase in capacity, if the county clearly documents an existing housing capacity deficiency.

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### **LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY**

The Budget includes the following changes to strengthen public safety at the local level:

- Community Corrections Performance Incentive Grant Program—An increase of \$23.7 million General Fund, for a total of \$124.8 million, for county probation departments that have demonstrated success in reducing the number of adult felony probationers going to county jail or state prison.
- City Law Enforcement Grants—An increase of \$12.5 million to augment the existing grants for city police activities to \$40 million. The additional funding may be used for targeted innovative training designed to strengthen police forces.
- Split Sentences—The Budget includes legislation that would make a split sentence the default sentence for realigned offenders unless a court finds, in the interest of justice, that it is not appropriate in a particular case. Increasing split sentences will result in additional offenders placed under probation supervision upon release from jail, which helps to improve successful reintegration into the community through access to rehabilitative programming and supportive services.
- Joint Task Force—The Budget includes \$9.4 million to support two new Special Operations Unit Teams to be deployed as needed throughout California and the expansion of the Fresno Special Operations Unit Team to investigate violent criminals and organized crime throughout the state. The Department of Justice and the California Highway Patrol will work collaboratively to assist local law enforcement agencies in tracking and apprehending suspects in high-priority investigations.

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### **CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION**

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation incarcerates the most violent felons, supervises them when they are released on parole, and provides rehabilitation programs to help them reintegrate into the community. The Department provides safe and secure detention facilities and necessary support services to inmates, including food, clothing, and academic and vocational training, as well as health care services.

The Budget includes total funding of \$9.8 billion (\$9.5 billion General Fund and \$293 million other funds) for the Department in 2014-15.

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### **UPDATE ON MEETING THE COURT-ORDERED POPULATION CAP**

For over two decades, California’s prison system has faced many challenges with overcrowding and lawsuits related to the provision of health and mental health services in prison. The population increased from approximately 60,000 inmates in 1986 to an all-time high of 173,479 in 2006. In 2011, notwithstanding the significant progress made in providing medical and mental health services and reducing the prison population, the United States Supreme Court upheld a lower court ruling requiring the Department to reduce population in its institutions to 137.5 percent of the system’s design capacity by June 30, 2013. Subsequent orders extended the deadline, and on February 10, 2014, the lower court issued a final order, granting the state a two-year extension to meet the cap by February 28, 2016. In granting the two-year extension, the court also established benchmarks, requiring the state to meet 143 percent of design capacity by June 30, 2014 and 141.5 percent by February 28, 2015. At present, the State’s prison population is approximately 140.8 percent of design capacity.

The Budget includes the following augmentations to comply with the court-ordered population cap:

- **Population Reduction Strategies**—An increase of \$3.1 million General Fund to comply with the additional population reduction strategies ordered by the court. The resources will allow the Department to begin expanding medical parole, implementing an elderly parole program, establishing a parole process for non-violent, non-sex second strikers who have served 50 percent of their sentence, and reducing the hearing preparation timeline.
- **Post Release Community Supervision**—\$11.3 million General Fund for county probation departments to supervise a temporary increase in the average daily population of offenders on Post Release Community Supervision as a result of the additional credit earnings for non-violent, non-sex second strikers ordered by the court on February 10, 2014.

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