



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2280

Introduced 2/7/2025, by Sen. Robert Peters

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

430 ILCS 69/35-20  
430 ILCS 69/35-25

Amends the Reimagine Public Safety Act. Provides that the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall issue a report to the General Assembly annually (rather than no later than January 1 of each year) that identifies communities within Illinois municipalities of 1,000,000 or more residents and municipalities with less than 1,000,000 residents and more than 35,000 residents that are experiencing concentrated firearm violence, explaining the investments that are being made to reduce concentrated firearm violence, and making further recommendations on how to end Illinois' firearm violence epidemic. Provides that the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall compile recommendations from all Lead Violence Prevention Conveners and report to the General Assembly annually (rather than bi-annually) on these funding recommendations.

LRB104 10719 BDA 20798 b

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Reimagine Public Safety Act is amended by  
5 changing Sections 35-20 and 35-25 as follows:

6 (430 ILCS 69/35-20)

7 Sec. 35-20. Office of Firearm Violence Prevention.

8 (a) On or before October 1, 2021, an Office of Firearm  
9 Violence Prevention is established within the Illinois  
10 Department of Human Services. The Assistant Secretary of  
11 Violence Prevention shall report his or her actions to the  
12 Secretary of Human Services and the Office of the Governor.  
13 The Office shall have the authority to coordinate and  
14 integrate all programs and services listed in this Act and  
15 other programs and services the Governor establishes by  
16 executive order to maximize an integrated approach to reducing  
17 Illinois' firearm violence epidemic and ultimately ending this  
18 public health crisis.

19 (b) The Department of Human Services and the Office of  
20 Firearm Violence Prevention shall have grant making,  
21 operational, and procurement authority to distribute funds to  
22 violence prevention organizations, youth development  
23 organizations, high-risk youth intervention organizations,

1 approved technical assistance and training providers,  
2 evaluation and assessment organizations, and other entities  
3 necessary to execute the functions established in this Act and  
4 other programs and services the Governor establishes by  
5 executive order for the Department and the Office.

6 (c) The Assistant Secretary of Firearm Violence Prevention  
7 shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent  
8 of the Senate. The Assistant Secretary of Firearm Violence  
9 Prevention shall receive an annual salary of \$170,000 or as  
10 set by the Governor, whichever is higher, and, beginning July  
11 1, 2023, shall be compensated from appropriations provided to  
12 the Comptroller for this purpose. On July 1, 2023, and on each  
13 July 1 thereafter, the Assistant Secretary shall receive an  
14 increase in salary based on a cost of living adjustment as  
15 authorized by Senate Joint Resolution 192 of the 86th General  
16 Assembly. The Assistant Secretary of Firearm Violence  
17 Prevention shall report to the Secretary of Human Services and  
18 also report his or her actions to the Office of the Governor.

19 (d) For Illinois municipalities with a 1,000,000 or more  
20 population, the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall  
21 determine the 10 most violent neighborhoods. When possible,  
22 this shall be determined by measuring the number of per capita  
23 fatal and nonfatal firearm-shot victims, excluding  
24 self-inflicted incidents, from January 1, 2016 through  
25 December 31, 2020. These 10 communities shall qualify for  
26 grants under this Act and coordination of other State services

1 from the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention. The Office  
2 shall, after identifying the top 10 neighborhoods, identify an  
3 additional 7 eligible neighborhoods by considering the number  
4 of victims in rank order in addition to the per capita rate. If  
5 appropriate, and subject to appropriation, the Office shall  
6 have the authority to consider adding up to 5 additional  
7 eligible neighborhoods or clusters of contiguous neighborhoods  
8 utilizing the same data sets so as to maximize the potential  
9 impact for firearm violence reduction. For Illinois  
10 municipalities with less than 1,000,000 residents and more  
11 than 35,000 residents, the Office of Firearm Violence  
12 Prevention shall identify the 10 municipalities or contiguous  
13 geographic areas that have the greatest concentrated firearm  
14 violence victims. When possible, this shall be determined by  
15 measuring the number of fatal and nonfatal firearm-shot  
16 victims, excluding self-inflicted incidents, from January 1,  
17 2016 through December 31, 2020 divided by the number of  
18 residents for each municipality or area. These 10  
19 municipalities or contiguous geographic areas and up to 5  
20 additional municipalities or contiguous geographic areas  
21 identified by the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall  
22 qualify for grants under this Act and coordination of other  
23 State services from the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention.  
24 The Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall consider  
25 factors listed in subsection (a) of Section 35-40 to determine  
26 up to 5 additional municipalities or contiguous geographic

1 areas that qualify for grants under this Act. The Office of  
2 Firearm Violence Prevention may, subject to appropriation,  
3 identify up to 5 additional neighborhoods, municipalities,  
4 contiguous geographic areas, or other local  
5 government-identified boundary areas to receive funding under  
6 this Act after considering additional risk factors that  
7 contribute to community firearm violence. The data analysis to  
8 identify new eligible neighborhoods and municipalities shall  
9 be updated to reflect eligibility based on the most recently  
10 available 5 full years of data no more frequently than once  
11 every 3 years.

12 (e) The Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall issue  
13 a report to the General Assembly annually ~~no later than~~  
14 ~~January 1 of each year~~ that identifies communities within  
15 Illinois municipalities of 1,000,000 or more residents and  
16 municipalities with less than 1,000,000 residents and more  
17 than 35,000 residents that are experiencing concentrated  
18 firearm violence, explaining the investments that are being  
19 made to reduce concentrated firearm violence, and making  
20 further recommendations on how to end Illinois' firearm  
21 violence epidemic.

22 (Source: P.A. 102-16, eff. 6-17-21; 102-679, eff. 12-10-21;  
23 102-1115, eff. 1-9-23.)

24 (430 ILCS 69/35-25)

25 Sec. 35-25. Integrated violence prevention and other

1 services.

2 (a) Subject to appropriation, for municipalities with  
3 1,000,000 or more residents, the Office of Firearm Violence  
4 Prevention shall make grants to violence prevention  
5 organizations for evidence-based violence prevention services.  
6 Approved technical assistance and training providers shall  
7 create learning communities for the exchange of information  
8 between community-based organizations in the same or similar  
9 fields. Firearm violence prevention organizations shall  
10 prioritize individuals at the highest risk of firearm violence  
11 victimization and provide these individuals with  
12 evidence-based comprehensive services that reduce their  
13 exposure to chronic firearm violence.

14 (a-5) Grants may be awarded under this Act to Reimagine  
15 Public Safety grantees or their subgrantees to provide any one  
16 or more of the following services to Reimagine Public Safety  
17 program participants or credible messengers:

18 (1) Behavioral health services, including clinical  
19 interventions, crisis interventions, and group counseling  
20 supports, such as peer support groups, social-emotional  
21 learning supports, including skill building for anger  
22 management, de-escalation, sensory stabilization, coping  
23 strategies, and thoughtful decision-making, short-term  
24 clinical individual sessions, psycho-social assessments,  
25 and motivational interviewing.

26 (A) Funds awarded under this paragraph may be used

1 for behavioral health services until July 1, 2026  
2 ~~2025~~.

3 (B) Any community violence prevention service  
4 provider being reimbursed from funds awarded under  
5 this paragraph for behavioral health services must  
6 also file a plan to become Medicaid certified for  
7 violence prevention-community support team services  
8 under the Illinois Medicaid program on or before July  
9 1, 2026 ~~2025~~.

10 (2) Capacity-building services, including  
11 administrative and programmatic support, services, and  
12 resources, such as subcontract development, budget  
13 development, grant monitoring and reporting, and fiscal  
14 sponsorship. Capacity-building services financed with  
15 grants awarded under this Act may also include intensive  
16 training and technical assistance focused on Community  
17 Violence Intervention (CVI) not-for-profit business  
18 operations, best practice delivery of firearm violence  
19 prevention services, and assistance with administering and  
20 meeting fiscal reporting or auditing requirements.  
21 Capacity-building services financed with grants awarded  
22 under this Act must be directed to a current or potential  
23 Reimagine Public Safety firearm violence prevention  
24 provider and cannot exceed 20% of potential funds awarded  
25 to the relevant provider or future provider.

26 (3) Legal aid services, including funding for staff

1 attorneys and paralegals to provide education, training,  
2 legal services, and advocacy for program recipients. Legal  
3 aid services that may be provided with grant funds awarded  
4 under this Act include "Know Your Rights" clinics,  
5 trainings targeting returning citizens and families  
6 impacted by incarceration, and long-term legal efforts  
7 addressing expungement, civil rights, family law, housing,  
8 employment, and victim rights. Legal aid services provided  
9 with grant funds awarded under this Act shall not be  
10 directed toward criminal justice issues.

11 (4) Housing services, including grants for emergency  
12 and temporary housing for individuals at immediate risk of  
13 firearm violence, except that grant funding provided under  
14 this paragraph must be directed only toward Reimagine  
15 Public Safety program participants.

16 (5) Workforce development services, including grants  
17 for job coaching, intensive case management, employment  
18 training and placement, and retention services, including  
19 the provision of transitional job placements and access to  
20 basic certificate training for industry-specific jobs.  
21 Training also includes the provision of education-related  
22 content, such as financial literacy training, GED  
23 preparation, and academic coaching.

24 (6) Re-entry services for individuals exiting the  
25 State or county criminal justice systems, if those  
26 individuals are either eligible for services under this

1 Act as participants or are individuals who can make an  
2 immediate contribution to mediate neighborhood conflicts  
3 if they receive stabilizing services. Re-entry services  
4 financed with grants awarded under this Act include all  
5 services authorized under this Act, including services  
6 listed in this subsection.

7 (7) Victim services, including assessments and  
8 screening of victim needs, planning sessions related to  
9 assessments, service planning and goal setting, assessing  
10 intervention needs, notifying and navigating participants  
11 through public agency processes for victim compensation,  
12 crisis intervention, emergency financial assistance,  
13 transportation, medical care, stable housing, and shelter,  
14 assessment and linkage to public benefits, and relocation  
15 services.

16 (b) In the geographic areas they serve, violence  
17 prevention organizations shall develop expertise in:

18 (1) Analyzing and leveraging data to identify the  
19 individuals who will most benefit from evidence-based  
20 violence prevention services in their geographic areas.

21 (2) Identifying the conflicts that are responsible for  
22 recurring violence.

23 (3) Having relationships with individuals who are most  
24 able to reduce conflicts.

25 (4) Addressing the stabilization and trauma recovery  
26 needs of individuals impacted by violence by providing

1 direct services for their unmet needs or referring them to  
2 other qualified service providers.

3 (5) Having and building relationships with community  
4 members and community organizations that provide  
5 evidence-based violence prevention services and get  
6 referrals of people who will most benefit from  
7 evidence-based violence prevention services in their  
8 geographic areas.

9 (6) Providing training and technical assistance to  
10 local law enforcement agencies to improve their  
11 effectiveness without having any role, requirement, or  
12 mandate to participate in the policing, enforcement, or  
13 prosecution of any crime.

14 (c) Violence prevention organizations receiving grants  
15 under this Act shall coordinate services with other violence  
16 prevention organizations in their area.

17 (d) The Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall  
18 identify, for each separate eligible service area under this  
19 Act, an experienced violence prevention organization to serve  
20 as the Lead Violence Prevention Convener for that area and  
21 provide each Lead Violence Prevention Convener with a grant to  
22 coordinate monthly meetings between violence prevention  
23 organizations and youth development organizations under this  
24 Act. The Lead Violence Prevention Convener may also receive,  
25 from the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention, technical  
26 assistance or training through approved providers when needs

1 are jointly identified. The Lead Violence Prevention Convener  
2 shall:

3 (1) provide the convened organizations with summary  
4 notes recommendations made at the monthly meetings to  
5 improve the effectiveness of evidence-based violence  
6 prevention services based on review of timely data on  
7 shootings and homicides in his or her relevant  
8 neighborhood;

9 (2) attend monthly meetings where the cause of  
10 violence and other neighborhood disputes is discussed and  
11 strategize on how to resolve ongoing conflicts and execute  
12 on agreed plans;

13 (3) (blank);

14 (4) on behalf of the convened organizations, make  
15 consensus recommendations to the Office of Firearm  
16 Violence Prevention and local law enforcement on how to  
17 reduce violent conflict in his or her neighborhood;

18 (5) meet on an emergency basis when conflicts that  
19 need immediate attention and resolution arise;

20 (6) share knowledge and strategies of the community  
21 violence dynamic in monthly meetings with local youth  
22 development specialists receiving grants under this Act;

23 (7) select when and where needed an approved Office of  
24 Violence Prevention-funded technical assistance and  
25 training service provider to receive agreed upon services;  
26 and

1           (8) after meeting with community residents and other  
2           community organizations that have expertise in housing,  
3           mental health, economic development, education, and social  
4           services, make recommendations to the Office of Firearm  
5           Violence Prevention on how to target community  
6           revitalization resources available from federal and State  
7           funding sources.

8           The Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall compile  
9           recommendations from all Lead Violence Prevention Conveners  
10          and report to the General Assembly annually ~~bi-annually~~ on  
11          these funding recommendations. The Lead Violence Prevention  
12          Convener may also serve as a violence prevention or youth  
13          development provider.

14          (e) The Illinois Office of Firearm Violence Prevention  
15          shall select, when possible and appropriate, no ~~fewer than 2~~  
16          ~~and no~~ more than 3 approved technical assistance and training  
17          providers to deliver technical assistance and training to the  
18          violence prevention organizations that request to receive  
19          approved technical assistance and training. Violence  
20          prevention organizations shall have the opportunity to select  
21          among the approved technical assistance services providers  
22          funded by the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention, as long  
23          as the technical assistance provider has the capacity to  
24          effectively serve the grantees that have selected them. The  
25          Department shall make best efforts to accommodate second  
26          choices of violence prevention organizations when the violence

1 prevention organizations' first choice does not have capacity  
2 to provide technical assistance.

3 (f) Approved technical assistance and training providers  
4 may:

5 (1) provide training and certification to violence  
6 prevention professionals on how to perform violence  
7 prevention services and other professional development to  
8 violence prevention professionals.

9 (2) provide management training on how to manage  
10 violence prevention professionals;

11 (3) provide training and assistance on how to develop  
12 memorandum of understanding for referral services or  
13 create approved provider lists for these referral  
14 services, or both;

15 (4) share lessons learned among violence prevention  
16 professionals and service providers in their network; and

17 (5) provide technical assistance and training on human  
18 resources, grants management, capacity building, and  
19 fiscal management strategies.

20 (g) Approved technical assistance and training providers  
21 shall:

22 (1) provide additional services identified as  
23 necessary by the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention and  
24 service providers in their network; and

25 (2) receive a base grant of up to \$250,000 plus  
26 negotiated service rates to provide group and

1 individualized services to participating violence  
2 prevention organizations.

3 (h) (Blank).

4 (i) The Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall issue  
5 grants, when possible and appropriate, to ~~no fewer than 2~~  
6 violence prevention organizations in each of the eligible  
7 service areas and no more than 6 organizations. When possible,  
8 the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention shall work, subject  
9 to eligible applications received, to ensure that grant  
10 resources are equitably distributed across eligible service  
11 areas. The Office of Firearm Violence Prevention may establish  
12 grant award ranges to ensure grants will have the potential to  
13 reduce violence in each neighborhood.

14 (j) No violence prevention organization can serve more  
15 than 3 eligible service areas unless the Office of Firearm  
16 Violence Prevention is unable to identify violence prevention  
17 organizations to provide adequate coverage.

18 (k) No approved technical assistance and training provider  
19 shall provide evidence-based violence prevention services in  
20 an eligible service area under this Act unless the Office of  
21 Firearm Violence Prevention is unable to identify qualified  
22 violence prevention organizations to provide adequate  
23 coverage.

24 (Source: P.A. 102-16, eff. 6-17-21; 102-679, eff. 12-10-21;  
25 103-8, eff. 6-7-23; 103-1059, eff. 12-20-24.)