

As Introduced

**136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026**

S. B. No. 425

Senator Manning

To enact section 5502.72 of the Revised Code to 1
establish the violent crime reduction grant 2
program. 3

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 5502.72 of the Revised Code be 4
enacted to read as follows: 5

Sec. 5502.72. (A) As used in this section: 6

(1) "Division of criminal justice services" means the 7
division of criminal justice services of the department of 8
public safety, created by section 5502.62 of the Revised Code. 9

(2) "Eligible applicant" means a police department of a 10
municipal corporation or a county sheriff's office. An eligible 11
applicant may join with one or more other eligible applicants to 12
submit a joint application. 13

(3) "Violent crime" means offenses categorized as violent 14
in the national incident-based reporting system operated by the 15
federal bureau of investigation and may include nonfatal firearm 16
offenses and other violent offenses as specified in rules 17
adopted under division (G) of this section. 18

(4) "Promising or proven strategy" means a strategy 19

identified in peer-reviewed research, federal guidance, or 20
another credible evaluation as likely to reduce violent crimes, 21
including those designated by the division of criminal justice 22
services in rules adopted under division (G) of this section. 23

(5) "Clearance by exception" or "cleared by exceptional 24
means" means the law enforcement agency to which a violent crime 25
was reported has done all of the following: 26

(a) Clearly and definitively established the identity of 27
one or more individuals suspected of commission of the violent 28
crime; 29

(b) Obtained sufficient probable cause to arrest the 30
individual or individuals suspected of commission of the violent 31
crime; 32

(c) Obtained sufficient information to effectuate the 33
arrest of the individual or individuals suspected of commission 34
of the violent crime, but a reason outside the control of the 35
law enforcement agency exists that prevents the law enforcement 36
agency from arresting the individual or individuals. 37

(6) "Clearance by arrest" or "cleared by arrest" means an 38
individual was arrested and charged with committing the violent 39
crime or alleged to be a delinquent child for committing the 40
violent crime. 41

(7) "Clearance rate" means the quotient obtained by 42
dividing the sum of the number of incidents of violent crime 43
that have a clearance by arrest and the number of incidents of 44
violent crime that have a clearance by exception by the total 45
number of incidents of violent crime reported to the law 46
enforcement agency during a single calendar year. 47

(8) "Clearance rate improvement project" means a project, 48

<u>the primary purpose of which is to increase clearance rates for</u>	49
<u>violent crimes, including the following:</u>	50
<u>(a) Investigative staffing and overtime dedicated to</u>	51
<u>clearing violent crimes;</u>	52
<u>(b) Information acquired and entered into a crime gun</u>	53
<u>intelligence center or the national integrated ballistic</u>	54
<u>information network, including correlation, lead triage, and</u>	55
<u>lead management;</u>	56
<u>(c) Forensic capacity, including ballistics and DNA</u>	57
<u>directly tied to violent crimes;</u>	58
<u>(d) Case-management systems, real-time crime center</u>	59
<u>support, and analytics that track leads and link cases;</u>	60
<u>(e) Backlog and cold-case surge operations for violent</u>	61
<u>crimes;</u>	62
<u>(f) Upgrading record management systems to comply with the</u>	63
<u>reporting requirements under division (J) of this section;</u>	64
<u>(g) Ensuring compliance with reporting requirements under</u>	65
<u>division (J) of this section.</u>	66
<u>(9) "Office of juvenile justice and delinquency</u>	67
<u>prevention" means the office of juvenile justice and delinquency</u>	68
<u>prevention established by the "Juvenile Justice and Delinquency</u>	69
<u>Prevention Act of 1974," 34 U.S.C. 11101 et seq., as amended.</u>	70
<u>(10) "Qualified research partner" means an organization</u>	71
<u>with demonstrated and substantial experience conducting rigorous</u>	72
<u>evaluations of program effectiveness, including the use of well-</u>	73
<u>implemented randomized control trials or other evidence-based</u>	74
<u>research methodologies that allow for strong causal inferences.</u>	75

(B) The violent crime reduction grant program is created 76
in the department of public safety for the purpose of awarding 77
grants to eligible applicants to reduce and prevent violent 78
crime through promising or proven strategies. The division of 79
criminal justice services shall administer the program. 80

(C) Grantees may use award funds only for the following 81
purposes: 82

(1) To create, implement, and expand violent crime 83
reduction strategies such as place network investigations, 84
focused deterrence, hot spot policing, and crime gun 85
intelligence centers; 86

(2) To implement or expand the following five core 87
strategies of the office of juvenile justice and delinquency 88
prevention's comprehensive gang model: 89

(a) Community mobilization; 90

(b) Opportunity provision; 91

(c) Social intervention; 92

(d) Violent crime suppression; 93

(e) Organizational change and development. 94

(3) To purchase technology as part of a larger violent 95
crime reduction strategy; 96

(4) To provide overtime for personnel directly involved in 97
developing and implementing a violent crime reduction strategy; 98

(5) To purchase equipment directly related to and 99
necessary for implementation of a violent crime reduction 100
strategy; 101

(6) To develop and provide training on a specific violent 102

<u>crime reduction strategy or on technology to support the</u>	103
<u>strategy;</u>	104
<u>(7) To receive technical assistance to create, implement,</u>	105
<u>and expand a violent crime reduction strategy;</u>	106
<u>(8) To purchase analytical tools and analytical support to</u>	107
<u>better understand and respond to violence occurring in the</u>	108
<u>community and assess the effectiveness of the violence reduction</u>	109
<u>strategy;</u>	110
<u>(9) To address violent crime by other means approved by</u>	111
<u>the division of criminal justice services.</u>	112
<u>(D) (1) (a) The division of criminal justice services shall</u>	113
<u>review, score, and recommend awards and shall make the criteria</u>	114
<u>used to review, score, and recommend awards publicly available.</u>	115
<u>(b) When recommending awards, the division of criminal</u>	116
<u>justice services shall prioritize awards for promising or proven</u>	117
<u>strategies that have undergone a causal methodology evaluation.</u>	118
<u>(2) The director of public safety shall approve final</u>	119
<u>awards upon the recommendation of the executive director of the</u>	120
<u>division of criminal justice services.</u>	121
<u>(3) The division of criminal justice services shall set</u>	122
<u>each grant term, and no grant term shall extend beyond twenty-</u>	123
<u>four months.</u>	124
<u>(E) Except as permitted by rule in cases of documented</u>	125
<u>fiscal hardship, grant awards should supplement and not supplant</u>	126
<u>a local government's existing obligations for ongoing services</u>	127
<u>as of the application date.</u>	128
<u>(F) The division of criminal justice services shall</u>	129
<u>monitor grantees for financial and programmatic compliance and</u>	130

<u>may do the following:</u>	131
<u>(1) Impose corrective actions;</u>	132
<u>(2) Suspend or terminate grants;</u>	133
<u>(3) Recover funds for noncompliance.</u>	134
<u>(G) The division of criminal justice services shall adopt</u>	135
<u>rules under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement this</u>	136
<u>section, including application procedures and deadlines, scoring</u>	137
<u>criteria, reporting schedules, performance metrics, and fiscal</u>	138
<u>requirements.</u>	139
<u>(H) Not later than the first day of October of each year,</u>	140
<u>the division of criminal justice services shall submit a report</u>	141
<u>to the governor and the general assembly summarizing awards,</u>	142
<u>strategies funded, geographic distribution, and statewide and</u>	143
<u>grantee-level outcomes relative to performance metrics developed</u>	144
<u>by rules adopted under division (G) of this section. The</u>	145
<u>division shall post the report on its public web site.</u>	146
<u>(I) (1) Except as provided in division (I) (2) of this</u>	147
<u>section, not less than twenty per cent of amounts awarded from</u>	148
<u>the violent crime reduction grant program in each fiscal year</u>	149
<u>shall be awarded to clearance rate improvement projects.</u>	150
<u>(2) The director of public safety may waive the percentage</u>	151
<u>requirement in division (I) (1) of this section only if the</u>	152
<u>office certifies, in a public notice posted by the thirty-first</u>	153
<u>day of January of that fiscal year, that the statewide violent</u>	154
<u>crime clearance rate for crimes that occurred during the most</u>	155
<u>recent calendar year for which data is available was at or above</u>	156
<u>seventy-five per cent.</u>	157
<u>(J) For each year in which a law enforcement agency</u>	158

receives a grant under this program, that agency shall provide a 159
report to the division of criminal justice services. Each report 160
shall include the following information for each violent crime 161
reported to the law enforcement agency during the grant term 162
period: 163

(1) The name of the offense; 164

(2) The date the offense was reported to the law 165
enforcement agency; 166

(3) The location of the offense; 167

(4) The type of force or weapon used, if applicable; 168

(5) The race or ethnicity, gender, and age of any victim 169
or victims, if available; 170

(6) If the offense was cleared, all of the following: 171

(a) The date the offense was cleared; 172

(b) Whether the offense was cleared by arrest or cleared 173
by exceptional means; 174

(c) If the offense was cleared by exceptional means, which 175
exceptional circumstance justified clearing the offense by 176
exceptional means; 177

(d) The race or ethnicity, gender, and age of the offender 178
or offenders, if available. 179

(K) (1) The division of criminal justice services shall 180
enter into an agreement with a qualified research partner to 181
collect and analyze data to assess program outcomes. The 182
evaluation shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, make 183
use of experimental or quasi-experimental designs that allow for 184
the strongest possible causal inferences with respect to 185

outcomes. 186

(2) Not later than December 31, 2026, the division of 187
criminal justice services shall, in collaboration with the 188
qualified research partner, submit a report to the chairpersons 189
of the standing committees of the senate and the house of 190
representatives entrusted with matters concerning criminal 191
justice. The division of criminal justice services shall make 192
this report publicly available on its web site. 193