

SB 1015 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Judiciary

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

This measure directs the Department of Justice to implement a grant program to safeguard communities experiencing disproportionately high rates of violence and sets associated grant criteria.

Detailed Summary:

Grants to prevent community violence

- Defines ‘community violence’ as intentional acts involving a firearm against an individual by someone who is not the individual’s family member or intimate partner.
- Requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to develop and implement a program to award grants to community-based organizations, Indian tribes, and other organizations formed to reduce community violence, not including law enforcement.
- Directs that the grants be used for the purpose of evidence-informed community violence reduction and lists examples of such measures and practices.

Application process, oversight board, and review

- Requires the DOJ to create an oversight board and a grant application process.
- Directs that the oversight board include survivors of and those impacted by community violence, experts and researchers of community violence.
- Sets detailed eligibility criteria for grant recipients.
- Requires grant recipients to annually report their disposition of grants and associated results to the oversight board and requires the oversight board to evaluate and provide feedback.
- Directs the DOJ to publish the grants awarded and results.

Operative and effective dates

- Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.
- Sets an operative date of January 1, 2026 and directs the DOJ to implement rules as necessary beforehand.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

“Community violence happens between unrelated individuals, who may or may not know each other, generally outside the home. Examples include assaults or fights among groups and shootings in public places, such as schools and on the streets.” Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victim and Survivor Services. Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Program,

<https://www.doj.state.or.us/crime-victims/grant-funds-programs/community-violence-intervention-program/>.

In 2023, the Oregon legislature enacted Senate Bill 5506, Section 276, which appropriated \$10 million to support community-based violence prevention grants. Since that time, the Oregon Department of Justice, Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division has administered the funds, evaluated grant applications through internally

established procedures, and published information regarding the disposition of grants. *Id.* Senate Bill 1015 (2025) would set additional standards and formalize the existing DOJ community violence intervention grant program in statute.

PRELIMINARY