

# SENATE . . . . . No. 2452

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)  
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SENATE, Thursday, April 19, 2018

The committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1090) of Kenneth J. Donnelly, Jason M. Lewis, Kenneth I. Gordon, Barbara A. L'Italien and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a center of excellence in community policing and behavioral health,- reports the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 2452).

For the committee,  
Cindy F. Friedman

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In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
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An Act to establish a center of excellence in community policing and behavioral health.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 19 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2   section 24 the following section:-

3           Section 25. (a) Within the department of mental health, there shall be a Center for Police  
4   Training in Crisis Intervention, in this section hereinafter referred to as the center. The center  
5   shall serve as a source for cost-effective, evidence-based mental health and substance use crisis  
6   response training programs for municipal police and other public safety personnel throughout the  
7   Commonwealth. The center shall conduct activities as the advisory council, pursuant to  
8   subsection (e), directs, which shall include: (i) supporting the establishment and availability of  
9   community policing and behavioral health training curricula for law enforcement personnel,  
10   particularly in interventions that provide alternatives to arrest and incarceration; (ii) serving as a  
11   clearinghouse for best practices in police interactions with individuals suffering from mental  
12   illness and substance use disorders; (iii) developing and implementing crisis intervention training  
13   curricula for all veteran and new recruit officers; (iv) providing technical assistance to cities and  
14   towns by establishing collaborative partnerships between law enforcement and human services

providers that maximize referrals to treatment services; and (v) establishing metrics for success and evaluation of outcomes of these programs.

(b) The center shall be funded with revenue from appropriations or other money authorized by the general court and specifically credited to the center, and revenue from private sources including, but not limited to, grants, both state and federal, gifts and donations received by the Commonwealth that are specifically credited to the center.

(c)(1) The center shall: (i) establish regional training opportunities for municipal police as needed throughout the Commonwealth; (ii) develop and maintain curricula that is updated with the latest research on best practices in community policing and behavioral health; (iii) recruit, reimburse, and support trainers with experience in community policing and behavioral health crisis intervention; (iv) ensure the training is targeted to meet specific local needs of participating cities and towns and the Commonwealth; (v) support police departments in implementing improved behavioral health responses through responsive policies and procedures and partnerships with community behavioral health providers; and (vi) assist municipal police departments to cover backfill costs incurred in sending staff to training, provided that said reimbursement shall not exceed the actual cost of the sending department's backfill, (vii) stipulate that each municipal police department receiving reimbursement provide information necessary for the center to evaluate the goals described in subsection (c)(3), including the percentage of the municipality's police sergeants, lieutenants, and other officers who directly oversee patrol officers who have received the center's recommended training and the percentage of the municipality's patrol officers who have received the center's recommended training.

(c)(2) Training shall include, but not be limited to information on: (i) the signs and symptoms of mental illnesses and substance misuse; (ii) mental health treatment; (iii) co-occurring disorders; (iv) responding to a mental health or substance use crisis; (v) best practices and (vi) community policing principles.

(c)(3) The center shall develop and ensure sufficient training resources and opportunities to enable each municipality in the Commonwealth to obtain the center's recommended training for not less than 25 percent of their police sergeants, lieutenants, and other officers who directly oversee patrol officers, and not less than 50 percent of their patrol officers within a time determined by the community policing and behavioral health advisory council as described in subsection (e).

(d) The center shall publish an annual report including: (i) narrative and statistical information about training demand, delivery, cost, and identified service gaps during the prior year; (ii) the effectiveness of the services delivered during the prior year; (iii) the communities that participated in the training; (iv) the number of officers, and their ranks, that participated in the training; (v) the progress each municipality has made in reaching the goals described in subsection (c)(3), including the percentage of each municipality's police sergeants, lieutenants, and other officers who directly oversee patrol officers who have received the center's recommended training, and the percentage of each municipality's patrol officers who have received the center's recommended training; and (vi) a review of research analyzed or conducted during the prior year. The center shall submit the annual report by February 1st to the governor, the secretary of health and human services, the commissioner of mental health, the secretary of public safety and security, the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the joint

committee on mental health, substance use and recovery, the joint committee on public safety and homeland security, and the senate and the house committees on ways and means.

(e) There shall be a community policing and behavioral health advisory council, in this section called the council, consisting of 13 members: the secretary of health and human services or the secretary's designee, and the secretary of public safety and security or the secretary's designee who shall serve as co-chairs of the council; the commissioner of the department of mental health or the commissioner's designee; the commissioner of the department of public health or the commissioner's designee; the house chair of the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery; the senate chair of the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery; the executive director of the municipal police training committee or the director's designee; a representative of a mental health consumer advocacy group, as appointed by the secretary of health and human services; two community members who are consumers of behavioral health services, appointed by the secretary of health and human services; and three municipal police chiefs to be selected by the executive director of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association which shall include one police chief or commanding officer employed by a community with fewer than 10,000 residents; one police chief or commanding officer employed by a community with 10,000 or more residents and fewer than 60,000 residents; and one police chief or commanding officer employed by a community with 60,000 or more residents. Members of the council shall be appointed for a term of three years, and may be reappointed for consecutive three-year terms. Non-governmental council members shall serve without compensation, but each member shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth for all expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

80           The council shall advise the chairs in directing the activities of the center consistent with  
81 subsection (c), and shall receive ongoing reports from the center concerning its activities. The  
82 council shall solicit public comment in the area of community policing and behavioral health,  
83 and in so doing may convene public hearings throughout the Commonwealth. The council shall  
84 hold not less than 2 meetings per year and may convene special meetings at the call of the chair  
85 or a majority of the council.

86           SECTION 2. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
87 Section 2VVVV the following section:-

88           Section 2WWWW. Criminal Justice and Community Support Trust Fund.

89           (a) There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate  
90 fund to be known as the Criminal Justice and Community Support Trust Fund, hereinafter called  
91 the fund. The fund shall be administered by the executive office of public safety and security, in  
92 consultation with the department of mental health, which shall contract with county restoration  
93 centers and the Center for Police Training in Crisis Intervention, established in section 25 of  
94 chapter 19, to administer the fund. There shall be credited to the fund any appropriations, grants,  
95 gifts or other monies authorized by the general court or other parties and specifically designated  
96 to be credited to the fund. The objectives of the fund shall include, but shall not be limited to:  
97 supporting jail diversion programs for persons suffering from a mental illness or substance use  
98 disorder who interact with law enforcement or the court system during a pre-arrest investigation  
99 or the pre-adjudication process in order to divert individuals from lockup facilities and hospital  
100 emergency departments to appropriate treatment; developing and providing training for state and  
101 municipal law enforcement in evidence-based mental health and substance use crisis response;

102 creating patient-focused on-going community services for individuals who are frequent users of  
103 emergency departments and suffer from serious and persistent mental illness; and providing  
104 funding for multi-year restoration center grants for the purpose of planning and implementing a  
105 restoration center within a county in the commonwealth.

106 (b) Monies deposited in the fund that are unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall  
107 not revert to the General Fund and shall be available for expenditure in the subsequent year.

108 (c) The fund may apply for and accept subventions, grants, loans, advances and  
109 contributions from any source of money, property, labor or other things of value to be held, used  
110 and applied in furtherance of this section.