

# HB384 INTRODUCED



1 TDHV91-1  
2 By Representative Ensler  
3 RFD: State Government  
4 First Read: 25-Apr-23  
5  
6 2023 Regular Session



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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would create within the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs the Community-Based Violence Prevention Program.

This bill would also provide for a pilot program to fund the establishment or expansion of community-based violence prevention programs created by municipalities, subject to appropriation.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to community outreach; to provide for the development of a Community-Based Violence Prevention Program within the Department of Economic and Community Affairs; and to provide for a pilot program to fund the establishment or expansion of community-based violence prevention programs created by municipalities, subject to appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) There is created within the Department of Economic and Community Affairs the Community-Based Violence Prevention Program.

(b) In connection with the Community-Based Violence



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29 Prevention Program, the Department of Economic and Community  
30 Affairs shall do both of the following:

31 (1) Develop, in coordination with state, public, and  
32 private entities, a master plan for the program.

33 (2) Undertake a public information campaign regarding  
34 the master plan, the need for community-based violence  
35 prevention, and any programs currently active in the state.

36 (c) During the development of the master plan, the  
37 Department of Economic and Community Affairs shall incorporate  
38 all of the following components of successful community-based  
39 violence prevention:

40 (1) Narrow focus on a well-defined population of  
41 individuals at greatest risk for violence within an area.

42 (2) Outreach linking participants to social services  
43 and providing exit strategies from criminal activities through  
44 one-on-one coaching, mentoring, and relationship building.

45 (3) Formal mentorship activities that facilitate client  
46 engagement, build relationships, establish connections to  
47 wraparound services, and create pathways to avoid dangerous  
48 situations.

49 (4) Case management that identifies participants,  
50 connects them with timely and tailored activities or services,  
51 provides alternatives for high-risk individuals choosing to  
52 leave a life of violence, coordinates follow-up service  
53 delivery efforts, monitors progress, and captures performance  
54 outcomes.

55 (5) Community mobilization and public education that  
56 reinforces norms against violence and gives individuals the



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57 sense that they can take collective action against crime in  
58 their neighborhoods.

59 (6) Involvement of faith-based organizations and other  
60 entities that aim to change norms on violence, make known the  
61 perceived costs of violence, and deliver services to  
62 participants and their associates or friends.

63 (7) Community notification meetings where individuals  
64 involved with criminal markets or gangs are called together by  
65 criminal justice agencies and community organizations and  
66 informed that if any member of a group engages in violence,  
67 the entire group will become a priority for law enforcement.

68 (d) (1) Subject to appropriation, the Department of  
69 Economic and Community Affairs shall establish a pilot program  
70 to provide grants to municipalities to establish or expand  
71 community-based violence prevention programs.

72 (2) The department shall develop an application and  
73 evaluation process for the program and shall publish all  
74 relevant details, requirements, and deadlines related to the  
75 application and evaluation process on a publicly available  
76 website.

77 (3) The department shall develop rules requiring any  
78 municipality that receives funds from the program to send  
79 regular progress reports to the department. Any municipality  
80 that receives program funds and subsequently fails to comply  
81 with official reporting requirements shall be required to  
82 return all funds received.

83 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first  
84 day of the third month following its passage and approval by



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85 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.