

A BILL

25-51

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



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To amend the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of the District of Columbia Establishment Act of 2001 to direct the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council to contract with an entity to conduct a biennial crime victimization survey, to establish certain criteria that the entity shall meet, to establish a Task Force, and to establish basic parameters of the survey and a survey report to be transmitted to the Mayor and the Council.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Crime Victimization Survey Amendment Act of 2023”.

Sec. 2. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of the District of Columbia Establishment Act of 2001, effective October 3, 2001 (D.C. Law 14-28; D.C. Official Code § 22-4231 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

(a) A new section 1506a is added to read as follows:

“Sec. 1506a. Crime victimization survey.

“(a) The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (“CJCC”) shall contract with a survey entity (“entity”) to conduct a biennial crime victimization survey (“survey”) in the District, which shall include

“(1) Developing the survey format and questions and the plan for administrating the survey;

28                   “(2) Engaging with the Crime Victimization Survey Task Force (“Task Force”),  
29 including consulting the Task Force and reviewing Task Force recommendations and guidance  
30 provided;

31                   “(3) Administering the survey to the target populations;

32                   “(4) Collecting, cleaning, coding, and weighting data on the survey as required by  
33 the CJCC; and

34                   “(5) Transmitting collected survey data to the CJCC.

35                   “(b) The entity that the CJCC contracts with to conduct the survey shall:

36                   “(1) Have executed similar surveys in urban jurisdictions in the United States;

37                   “(2) Demonstrate significant experience in survey research, including creating  
38 and testing survey instruments, fielding surveys through various survey modes, and securely  
39 storing and analyzing complex survey data;

40                   “(3) Engage an institutional review board (“IRB”) which shall be responsible for  
41 reviewing the methodology of the survey and to ensure that all aspects of the survey conform to  
42 applicable federal regulations on research projects involving human subjects and best practices in  
43 survey research;

44                   “(4) Demonstrate experience in engaging with or offering services to crime  
45 victims in a linguistically and culturally competent and trauma-informed manner, such as  
46 providing evidence that the entity staff receive trainings on victim-centered and trauma-informed  
47 competencies; and

48                   “(5) Demonstrate expertise in diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in survey  
49 outreach, data collection, and analysis.

50                   “(c)(1) The entity, once under contract, shall submit a list of any personnel who will have  
51 access to personal identifiable information (“PII”) data collected pursuant to the contract to the  
52 CJCC for approval before fielding the survey.

53                   “(2) Any alterations or additions to the list of personnel must be approved by the  
54 CJCC in writing prior to the personnel being permitted to access PII data collected pursuant to  
55 the contract.

56                   “(d)(1) The entity shall take all reasonable measures to safeguard PII data collected  
57 pursuant the contract, by complying with data access, retention, and protection requirements as  
58 prescribed by CJCC.

59                   “(2) Within 10 days after the final survey report is issued, CJCC staff shall  
60 destroy PII data from all devices made accessible to the entity pursuant to the contract or  
61 otherwise confirm that all PII data has been destroyed from those devices.

62                   “(e) The survey shall be fielded to:

63                               “(1) A representative sample of adults in the District; and

64                               “(2) An oversample of adults in the District who live in areas with high levels of  
65 reported crime.

66                   “(f) The survey shall include, at a minimum, questions on the following information and  
67 topics:

68                   “(1) Demographic information of the respondents, including age, race, ethnicity,  
69 sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status, primary language spoken, educational  
70 attainment, income, occupation, and Ward of residence;

71                   “(2) Information on criminal victimization incidents (“incidents”) experienced by  
72 respondents within the preceding 12 months, including, if known by the respondent:

73                   “(A) The type of crime or crimes in which the respondent was victimized;

74                   “(B) Any injuries sustained as a result of the incident;

75                   “(C) The location of the incident;

76                   “(D) The time of day that the incident took place;

77                   “(E) The number of suspects involved in the incident;

78                   “(F) The respondent’s relationship to the suspect or suspects, if any;

79                   “(G) Whether a weapon was used by the suspect or suspects during the  
80 incident; and

81                   “(H) The estimated cost of any property destroyed or damaged by the  
82 suspects during the incident;

83                   “(3) Incident reporting behavior by respondents, including:

84                   “(A) Whether the respondent reported the incidents identified in their  
85 responses to questions posed pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection to the Metropolitan  
86 Police Department (“MPD”);

87                   “(B) If the respondent reported any incidents to MPD, the respondents’  
88 experience with MPD; and

89                   “(C) If a respondent did not report any incidents to MPD, the reasons why  
90 the respondent elected not to report the incident, and what alternative reporting mechanisms, if  
91 any, the respondent used to respond to the incident or to deal with suspects;

92                   “(4) Actions taken by the survey respondent after the incident to address the  
93 consequences of victimization, including alterations in behavior or the respondent’s physical  
94 environment to avoid further victimization, the use of any medical or social services by the  
95 respondent, and the cost to the respondent for use of any medical or social services; and

96                   “(5) Any other information that the CJCC determines necessary to adequately  
97 measure crime victimization and its consequences within the District.

98                   “(g) The survey shall be accompanied with supplemental materials providing prospective  
99 respondents with information regarding the purpose of the survey, the ways in which the data  
100 collected will be used, and the protocols in place to protect respondents’ identity and personal  
101 information. Both the survey and any supplemental materials shall be made available in the 5  
102 most commonly spoken languages in the District.

103                   “(h) The survey may be supplemented by additional data collected through other means,  
104 such as in-depth interviews or focus groups of District residents who have been victims of crime,  
105 as deemed appropriate by the CJCC.

106                   “(i)(1) Before the CJCC posts a request for proposals for the survey, the CJCC shall  
107 convene a Task Force.

108                   “(2) The Task Force shall serve as an advisory body to the entity and CJCC by  
109 providing:

110                   “(A) Ad hoc consultation in identifying the goals, focus, scope, and  
111 themes of each biennial survey;

112                   “(B) Advice on the development of the survey questions and post-analysis  
113 recommendations by the entity; and

114                   “(C) Other support, as requested by the CJCC.

115                   “(3)(A) The Task Force shall consist of the following:

116                               “(i) The Executive Director of the CJCC, or the Executive  
117 Director’s designee;

118                               “(ii) The Director of the Office of Victim Services and Justice  
119 Grants, or the Director’s designee;

120                               “(iii) The Director of the Office of Neighborhood Safety and  
121 Engagement, or the Director’s designee;

122                               “(iv) The Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department, or the  
123 Chief’s designee;

124                               “(v) The Attorney General of the District of Columbia, or the  
125 Attorney General’s designee;

126                               “(vi) The United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, or  
127 the United States Attorney’s designee;

128                               “(vii) The Director of the Department of Behavioral health, or the  
129 Director’s designee;

130                                   “(viii) One representative from the DC Coalition Against Domestic  
131 Violence; and

132                                   “(ix) One representative from an organization which serves victims  
133 of crime;

134                                   “(B) The Executive Director of the Office of Victim Services and Justice  
135 Grants, or the Director or the Executive Director’s designee shall serve as the Chairperson of the  
136 Task Force.

137                                   “(C) The Task Force shall:

138                                   “(i) Provide the CJCC and entity with recommendations for the  
139 goals, focus, and scope of each survey;

140                                   “(ii) Produce themes, sub-themes, areas of questioning, and  
141 questions that the entity may turn into survey questions;

142                                   “(iii) Provide feedback to the entity on the survey, including on  
143 format, voice, and proposed questions to ensure the survey meets the goals, focus or scope as  
144 envisioned by the Task Force and is drafted in a linguistically and culturally competent and  
145 trauma-informed manner;

146                                   “(iv) Develop recommendations on trauma-informed survey  
147 dissemination protocols;

148                                   “(v) Review and provide feedback on the entity’s plans to  
149 administer the survey and for sample selection; and

150                   “(vi) Provide feedback to the CJCC on policy recommendations  
151 following the finalization of the survey.

152                   “(D) The Task Force shall meet monthly until the design of the first  
153 biennial survey is complete and at a frequency agreed upon by the Director of the Office of  
154 Victim Services and Justice Grants and the Executive Director for the CJCC thereafter.

155                   “(j)(1) The CJCC, upon receipt of the survey data and any analysis by the entity, shall  
156 analyze the data and draft a report to submit to the Mayor and to the Council. The report shall be  
157 submitted to the Council and the Mayor within 180 days after the deadline for submission of  
158 survey responses by respondents.

159                   “(2) The report shall, at a minimum, include:

160                   “(A) Information about the methodology of the survey, including the  
161 sample size, how respondents were sampled, the survey mode, and non-response reduction  
162 strategies;

163                   “(B) Information on cleaning, coding, and weighting procedures used by  
164 the entity and CJCC on the survey data for purposes of producing the analyses included in the  
165 report;

166                   “(C) Descriptions of the inferred causes and contributing factors to crime  
167 victimization, including any trends or patterns observed in types of crimes or groups victimized;

168                   “(D) Descriptive (describing the data gathered) and inferential  
169 (hypothesizing predictions and generalizing from the data gathered) statistics of survey data  
170 broken out by respondent demographics, including crime victimization rates, crime incident



171 characteristics, crime reporting behavior, and any actions taken by the respondent after  
172 victimization; and

173 “(E) Recommendations to the Mayor and Council, based on the analysis  
174 provided in subparagraph (D) of this paragraph, to address identified gaps in processes, policies,  
175 and services for victims of crime in the District.

176 “(3)(A) The Task Force shall review the report draft prepared by the CJCC and  
177 provide feedback or other commentary on the report, after which the CJCC shall finalize the  
178 report and submit the final report to the Mayor and Council.

179 “(B) Any feedback or commentary provided by the Task Force pursuant to  
180 this paragraph shall be affixed as an appendix to the final report.

181 “(4) The report shall be made available to the public on the CJCC’s website.

182 “(k)(1) A researcher may submit a written request 6 years after the completion of each  
183 survey report to the CJCC for de-identified data for purposes of secondary analysis.

184 “(2) The CJCC shall approve all requests in writing prior to dissemination of any  
185 requested data pursuant to this section.

186 “(3) Requests and any disseminated data shall be subject to any conditions  
187 deemed necessary by the CJCC to protect the data and ensure that respondents cannot be  
188 identified.”.

189 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

190 (a) This act shall apply upon the date of inclusion of its fiscal effect in an approved  
191 budget and financial plan.

192 (b) The Chief Financial Officer shall certify the date of the inclusion of the fiscal effect in  
193 an approved budget and financial plan, and provide notice to the Budget Director of the Council  
194 of the certification.

195 (c)(1) The Budget Director shall cause the notice of the certification to be published in  
196 the District of Columbia Register.

197 (2) The date of publication of the notice of the certification shall not affect the  
198 applicability of this act.

199 Sec. 4. Applicability.

200 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal  
201 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,  
202 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

203 Sec. 5. Effective date.

204 This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
205 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 60-day period of congressional review as  
206 provided in section 602(c)(2) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
207 24, 1973, (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(2)), and publication in the District of  
208 Columbia Register.