

SENATE BILL NO. 156—SENATOR FLORES

PREFILED FEBRUARY 2, 2025

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the prevention of gun violence. (BDR 18-958)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to firearm safety; creating the Office for the Prevention of Gun Violence in the Office of the Attorney General; setting forth the powers and duties of the Office; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Under existing law, the Attorney General is the legal adviser on all state
2 matters arising in the Executive Department of the State Government. (NRS
3 228.110) **Section 7** of this bill creates the Office for the Prevention of Gun
4 Violence within the Office of the Attorney General and: (1) requires the Attorney
5 General to appoint an Ombudsman of the Office; (2) requires the Ombudsman to
6 employ such personnel as are necessary to perform the functions and duties of the
7 Office; and (3) authorizes state agencies to cooperate with and assist the Office in
8 the performance of its duties. **Section 8** of this bill requires the Office to: (1) advise
9 the Attorney General on all matters relating to the prevention of gun violence; (2)
10 increase public awareness of federal and state laws and available resources relating
11 to the prevention of gun violence; (3) increase education relating to the prevention
12 of gun violence through public awareness campaigns and the development of
13 certain materials and training resources; (4) collaborate with professors and
14 researchers in identifying and developing data and resources relating to preventing
15 gun violence; and (5) at the request of the Attorney General, assist with certain
16 other educational campaigns and programs relating to the prevention of gun
17 violence, firearm safety and suicide prevention. **Section 9** of this bill authorizes the
18 Ombudsman to establish and administer a program to award grants to organizations
19 in this State to conduct certain gun violence prevention initiatives and sets forth
20 certain provisions should such a program be created. **Section 10** of this bill requires
21 the Office to create and maintain a resource bank for data, research and statistical
22 information pertaining to gun violence in the State. **Section 11** of this bill
23 authorizes the Office to apply for and receive gifts, grants and contributions to
24 carry out the duties and defray the expenses of the Office. **Section 12** of this bill
25 requires the Attorney General to submit a biennial report to the Legislature



26 concerning the activities and effectiveness of the Office for the Prevention of Gun
27 Violence. **Sections 2-6** of this bill define certain terms for the purposes of the
28 provisions of **sections 2-12**.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 228 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 12, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *As used in sections 2 to 12, inclusive, of this act,*
5 *unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined*
6 *in sections 3 to 6, inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed*
7 *to them in those sections.*

8 **Sec. 3.** *“Ombudsman” means the Ombudsman of the Office.*

9 **Sec. 4.** *“Office” means the Office for the Prevention of Gun*
10 *Violence created by section 7 of this act.*

11 **Sec. 5.** *“Resource bank” means the bank of information,*
12 *materials and resources pertaining to gun violence in Nevada*
13 *created and maintained by the Office pursuant to section 10 of this*
14 *act.*

15 **Sec. 6.** *“State agency” means an agency, bureau, board,*
16 *commission, department, division or any other unit of the*
17 *Executive Department of the State Government.*

18 **Sec. 7. 1.** *The Office for the Prevention of Gun Violence is*
19 *hereby created within the Office of the Attorney General.*

20 **2.** *The Attorney General shall appoint an Ombudsman of the*
21 *Office, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Attorney General.*

22 **3.** *The Ombudsman shall employ such personnel as are*
23 *necessary to perform the functions and duties of the Office set*
24 *forth in sections 8 to 12, inclusive, of this act.*

25 **4.** *Any state agency may cooperate with and assist the Office*
26 *in the performance of its duties and functions.*

27 **Sec. 8.** *The Office for the Prevention of Gun Violence shall:*

28 **1.** *Advise the Attorney General on all matters related to the*
29 *prevention of gun violence, including, without limitation, the*
30 *effectiveness of state laws in preventing gun violence, the legal,*
31 *social and policy barriers to preventing gun violence and*
32 *strategies and policies to prevent gun violence.*

33 **2.** *Increase public awareness of federal and state laws and*
34 *available resources relating to preventing gun violence, including,*
35 *without limitation:*

36 **(a)** *Best practices for the safe storage of firearms;*

37 **(b)** *Safe and responsible gun ownership;*



1 (c) Federal and state laws relating to purchasing, owning and
2 storing a firearm;

3 (d) Accessing resources relating to mental health and
4 substance use disorders and how to refer a person in need of
5 assistance to resources relating to mental health, substance use
6 disorders and suicide prevention; and

7 (e) The availability of, and the process to obtain, an order for
8 protection pursuant to chapter 33 of NRS.

9 3. Increase education relating to preventing gun violence
10 through:

11 (a) Public awareness campaigns relating to gun violence that
12 are conducted in a culturally competent manner and directed
13 toward gun owners, the parents or legal guardians of children,
14 professions that provide services to persons and communities
15 disproportionately affected by gun violence and communities
16 identified by the Office as disproportionately affected by gun
17 violence;

18 (b) The development of materials and training resources
19 relating to the prevention of gun violence that are in multiple
20 languages, when possible, to be made available to local law
21 enforcement agencies, health care providers and educators to aid
22 them in educating the public about the prevention of gun violence;
23 and

24 (c) The utilization of multiple forms of messaging, including,
25 without limitation, television messaging, radio broadcasts, print
26 media and digital strategies.

27 4. Collaborate with and assist professors and researchers in:

28 (a) Identifying new data or data needed for the advancement
29 of research relating to the prevention of gun violence;

30 (b) Encouraging the disaggregation of data relating to gun
31 violence by race and ethnicity to improve the understanding of
32 barriers to preventing gun violence;

33 (c) Promoting new and relevant research relating to
34 preventing gun violence; and

35 (d) Researching, developing and implementing programs,
36 initiatives, tools and resources aimed at preventing gun violence.

37 5. At the request of the Attorney General, provide assistance
38 to other educational campaigns and programs conducted by the
39 Office of the Attorney General relating to the prevention of gun
40 violence, firearm safety and suicide prevention.

41 **Sec. 9. 1. The Ombudsman may, within the limits of money**
42 **available for this purpose, establish and administer a program to**
43 **award grants to organizations in this State to conduct gun violence**
44 **prevention initiatives that are community-based, culturally**



1 *competent and focused on interrupting cycles of gun violence,*
2 *trauma and retaliation.*

3 2. *The Attorney General may adopt regulations for the*
4 *administration of any grant program established pursuant to*
5 *subsection 1, including, without limitation, the procedure to apply*
6 *for such a grant, the criteria for awarding a grant and any*
7 *reporting requirements.*

8 3. *To be eligible for a grant from a program established*
9 *pursuant to subsection 1, an organization must comply with any*
10 *regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 2 and demonstrate to*
11 *the satisfaction of the Ombudsman that the organization has the*
12 *ability to conduct effective gun violence prevention initiatives in*
13 *communities identified by the Office as being at high risk of*
14 *perpetrating or being victimized by gun violence.*

15 4. *Any initiative conducted with a grant awarded by the*
16 *program established pursuant to subsection 1 must:*

17 (a) *Use strategies that are evidence-informed and have*
18 *demonstrated the potential to reduce gun violence without*
19 *contributing to mass incarceration, such as hospital-based*
20 *violence intervention programs, group violence interventions,*
21 *evidence-based street outreach programs and violence interruption*
22 *and crisis management programs; and*

23 (b) *Include regular evaluations of the effectiveness of*
24 *implemented initiatives, which must include soliciting community*
25 *input.*

26 **Sec. 10.** *The Office shall create and maintain a resource*
27 *bank for data, research and statistical information pertaining to*
28 *gun violence in the State. The resource bank must be updated on a*
29 *routine basis to reflect current statistical information regarding*
30 *gun violence in the State.*

31 **Sec. 11.** *The Office may apply for and receive gifts, grants,*
32 *contributions or other money from governmental and private*
33 *agencies, affiliated associations and other persons for the purpose*
34 *of carrying out the provisions of sections 7 to 12, inclusive, of this*
35 *act and to defray expenses incurred by the Office in the discharge*
36 *of its duties.*

37 **Sec. 12.** *On or before January 1 of each odd-numbered year,*
38 *the Attorney General shall submit to the Director of the Legislative*
39 *Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the next regular session of the*
40 *Legislature a written report concerning:*

41 1. *The implementation of sections 7 to 12, inclusive, of this*
42 *act; and*

43 2. *The overall effectiveness of the Office for the Prevention of*
44 *Gun Violence.*



1 **Sec. 13.** Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7 of this
2 act, the Ombudsman of the Office for the Prevention of Gun
3 Violence shall employ not less than one full-time equivalent
4 employee for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and an additional two full-time
5 equivalent employees for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

6 **Sec. 14.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 218D.380 do
7 not apply to any provision of this act which adds or revises a
8 requirement to submit a report to the Legislature.

9 **Sec. 15.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.

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