

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.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 8)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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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; requiring the appointment of a Special Counsel for the Prevention of Gun Violence by the Attorney General; setting forth the powers and duties of the Special Counsel; 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: (1) requires the appointment of a Special Counsel
4 for the Prevention of Gun Violence by the Attorney General; and (2) authorizes
5 state agencies to cooperate with and assist the Special Counsel in the performance
6 of his or her duties. **Section 8** of this bill requires the Special Counsel to: (1) advise
7 the Attorney General on all matters relating to the prevention of gun violence; (2)
8 collaborate with professors and researchers in developing data and resources
9 relating to preventing gun violence; (3) at the request of the Attorney General,
10 assist with certain other educational campaigns and programs relating to the
11 prevention of gun violence, firearm safety and suicide prevention; and (4) collect
12 certain data relating to arrests and prosecutions for the violation of certain gun
13 laws. **Section 9** of this bill authorizes the Special Counsel to establish and
14 administer a program to award grants to organizations in this State to conduct
15 certain gun violence prevention initiatives and sets forth certain provisions should
16 such a program be created. **Section 11** of this bill authorizes the Special Counsel to
17 apply for and receive gifts, grants and contributions to carry out the duties and
18 defray the expenses of the Special Counsel. **Section 12** of this bill requires the
19 Attorney General to submit a biennial report to the Legislature concerning the
20 activities of the Special Counsel and the state of gun violence and gun violence



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prevention in this State. Sections 2-6 of this bill define certain terms for the purposes of the provisions of sections 2-12.

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

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

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

Sec. 3. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 4.5. *“Local law enforcement agency” means:*

1. The sheriff’s office of a county;

2. A metropolitan police department; or

3. A police department of an incorporated city.

Sec. 5. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 5.5. *“Special Counsel” means Special Counsel for the Prevention of Gun Violence appointed pursuant to section 7 of this act.*

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

Sec. 7. 1. *The Attorney General shall appoint a Special Counsel for the Prevention of Gun Violence, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Attorney General.*

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4 of section 8 of this act, each state agency may cooperate with and assist the Special Counsel in the performance of his or her duties and functions.

Sec. 8. *The Special Counsel shall:*

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

2. Collaborate with and assist professors and researchers in:

(a) Promoting new and relevant research relating to preventing gun violence; and

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



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

4. Collect data relating to any arrest or prosecution for a violation of NRS 202.3625 to 202.3645, inclusive. Upon request of the Special Counsel, the Department of Public Safety, a local law enforcement agency, a district attorney or a city attorney shall provide such data to the Special Counsel.

Sec. 9. 1. The Special Counsel may, within the limits of money available for this purpose, establish and administer a program to award grants to organizations in this State to conduct gun violence prevention initiatives that are community-based, culturally competent and focused on interrupting cycles of gun violence, trauma and retaliation.

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

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

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

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

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

Sec. 10. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 11. The Special Counsel may apply for and receive gifts, grants, contributions or other money from governmental and private agencies, affiliated associations and other persons for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sections 7 to 12, inclusive, of this act and to defray expenses incurred by the Special Counsel in the discharge of his or her duties.



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

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

2. The overall state of gun violence and gun violence prevention in this State.

Sec. 13. (Deleted by amendment.)

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

Sec. 14.5. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

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

