

**Introduced by Senator Leno**

February 22, 2013

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An act to amend Section 13964 of, and to add Section 13963.1 to, the Government Code, relating to grants for trauma centers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 580, as introduced, Leno. Crime victims: trauma center grants.

The California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board administers a program to assist state residents to obtain compensation for their pecuniary losses suffered as a direct result of criminal acts. Payment is made under these provisions from the Restitution Fund, which is continuously appropriated to the board for these purposes.

This bill would authorize the board, as specified, to administer a program to award, upon appropriation by the Legislature, up to \$2 million in grants, annually, to trauma centers, as defined.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 13963.1 is added to the Government
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 13963.1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 4 following:
- 5 (1) Without treatment, approximately 50 percent of people who
- 6 survive a traumatic, violent injury experience lasting or extended
- 7 psychological or social difficulties. Untreated psychological trauma
- 8 often has severe economic consequences, including overuse of

1 costly medical services, loss of income, failure to return to gainful  
2 employment, loss of medical insurance, and loss of stable housing.

3 (2) Victims of crime should receive timely and effective mental  
4 health treatment.

5 (3) The board shall administer a program to evaluate applications  
6 and award grants to trauma recovery centers.

7 (b) The board shall only award a grant to a trauma center that  
8 meets both of the following criteria:

9 (1) The trauma center demonstrates that it serves as a community  
10 resource by providing services, including, but not limited to,  
11 making presentations and providing training to law enforcement,  
12 community-based agencies, and other health care providers on the  
13 identification and effects of violent crime.

14 (2) Any other related criteria required by the board.

15 (c) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the board may award  
16 grants totaling up to two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per year. All  
17 grants shall be funded only from the Restitution Fund.

18 (d) The board may award a grant providing funding for up to a  
19 maximum period of three years. Any portion of a grant that a  
20 trauma center does not use within the specified grant period shall  
21 revert to the Restitution Fund. The board may award consecutive  
22 grants to a trauma center to prevent a lapse in funding. The board  
23 shall not award a trauma center more than one grant for any period  
24 of time.

25 (e) (1) The board shall not receive, evaluate, or approve  
26 applications for trauma recovery center grants in a fiscal year  
27 unless the Restitution Fund is projected to have a year-end fund  
28 reserve equal to, or greater than, the equivalent of 25 percent of  
29 total budgeted expenditures for the fund, as projected in the January  
30 budget proposed by the Governor pursuant to Section 12 of Article  
31 IV of the California Constitution.

32 (2) Grants awarded to trauma recovery centers shall not result  
33 in a year-end balance to the Restitution Fund of less than 25 percent  
34 of total budgeted expenditures for the fund, as projected in the  
35 January budget proposed by the Governor pursuant to Section 12  
36 of Article IV of the California Constitution.

37 (f) The board, when considering grant applications, shall give  
38 preference to a trauma center that conducts outreach to, and serves,  
39 both of the following:

1 (1) Crime victims who typically are unable to access traditional  
2 services, including, but not limited to, victims who are homeless,  
3 chronically mentally ill, of diverse ethnicity, members of immigrant  
4 and refugee groups, disabled, or who have severe trauma-related  
5 symptoms or complex psychological issues.

6 (2) Victims of a wide range of crimes, including, but not limited  
7 to, victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, physical assault,  
8 shooting, stabbing, and vehicular assault, and family members of  
9 homicide victims.

10 (g) The trauma center sites shall be selected by the board through  
11 a well-defined selection process that takes into account the rate of  
12 crime and geographic distribution to serve the greatest number of  
13 victims.

14 (h) A trauma center that is awarded a grant shall do both of the  
15 following:

16 (1) Report to the board annually on how grant funds were spent,  
17 how many clients were served (counting an individual client who  
18 receives multiple services only once), units of service, staff  
19 productivity, treatment outcomes, and patient flow throughout  
20 both the clinical and evaluation components of service.

21 (2) In compliance with federal statutes and rules governing  
22 federal matching funds for victims' services, each center shall  
23 submit any forms and data requested by the board to allow the  
24 board to receive the 60 percent federal matching funds for eligible  
25 victim services and allowable expenses.

26 (i) For purposes of this section, a "trauma center" provides,  
27 including, but not limited to, all of the following resources,  
28 treatment, and recovery services to crime victims:

29 (1) Mental health services.

30 (2) Assertive community-based outreach and clinical case  
31 management.

32 (3) Coordination of care among medical and mental health care  
33 providers, law enforcement agencies, and other social services.

34 (4) Services to family members and loved ones of homicide  
35 victims.

36 (5) A multidisciplinary staff of clinicians that includes  
37 psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers.

38 SEC. 2. Section 13964 of the Government Code is amended  
39 to read:

1 13964. (a) Claims under this chapter shall be paid from the  
2 Restitution Fund.

3 (b) Notwithstanding Section 13340, *except for funds to support*  
4 *trauma center grants pursuant to Section 13963.1*, the proceeds  
5 in the Restitution Fund are hereby continuously appropriated to  
6 the board, without regard to fiscal years, for the purposes of this  
7 chapter. However, the funds appropriated pursuant to this section  
8 for administrative costs of the board shall be subject to annual  
9 review through the State Budget process.

10 (c) A sum not to exceed 15 percent of the amount appropriated  
11 annually to pay claims pursuant to this chapter may be withdrawn  
12 from the Restitution Fund, to be used as a revolving fund by the  
13 board for the payment of emergency awards pursuant to Section  
14 13961.