



## **2025-2026 Legislative Priorities**

### **FY 26 budget line items funding community violence intervention programs**

#### **4000-0005 Safe and Successful Youth Initiative (SSYI) - fund at \$15,000,000**

- SSYI allocates money to cities that have the highest juvenile crime rates, targeting youth aged 17-24 that are shown to have “proven risk” of becoming involved with violence. The funding provides case management, behavioral health services, educational and vocational support, and other wraparound services. This line item also allocates funds to community-based organizations.

#### **4590-1504 Neighborhood based gun and violent crime prevention pilot program - fund at \$15,000,000**

- The funding goes towards community-based organizations that work with individuals who have been deemed at the highest risk of experiencing gun violence, providing comprehensive services such as educational programs, vocational training, behavioral health, mentoring, and housing support. Additionally, funded programs engage youth in community mobilization activities to foster civic engagement and elicit longer term change.

#### **4590-1506 Violence prevention grants - fund at \$5,000,000**

- Funds a competitive grant program administered by the Department of Public Health to support the establishment of a comprehensive youth violence prevention program. Grants awarded under this program go to community-based organizations for activities designed to prevent behaviors that put young people at risk of becoming perpetrators or victims of violence.

#### **7002-0012 Summer jobs program for at-risk youth (Youth Works) - fund at \$20,000,000**

- A state-funded program that provides short-term, paid employment opportunities for youth and young adults to support them as they develop the skills needed to find and keep permanent jobs, practicing professional skills and learning about the next steps in their educational and career pathways. This program plays a key role in preventing gun violence by providing young people with positive alternatives and helping them build a secure future.

### **8000-0655 Recidivism reduction for youth and young adults - fund at \$8,000,000**

- This is a grant program to provide support to youth 18-25 who are leaving incarceration and returning to their communities. Young adults receive assistance with benefits, housing behavioral health services, case management, and vocational support, administered through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. By supporting successful reintegration, the program helps reduce the likelihood of reoffending and involvement in community violence, including gun violence, fostering safer communities and brighter futures.

### **Industry accountability**

#### **S.1653 / H.2672 An Act relative to firearm industry accountability and gun violence victims' access to justice**

- Sponsors: Sen. Creem; Rep. Moran
- Would allow individuals and entities harmed by firearm industry members' wrongful and unlawful conduct the option to pursue civil actions seeking appropriate justice, fair compensation, and other remedies for those harms in court.

### **Unsolved homicides**

#### **S.2177 / HD.1754 An Act relative to unsolved homicides**

- Sponsors: Sen. Miranda; Rep. Holmes, Rep. Williams
- Establishes an office of unsolved homicides within the Attorney General's office. This bill would allow immediate family members of Massachusetts homicide victims, whose cases have been unsolved for over three years, to request the unsolved homicides office to review the case and see if further investigation could result in new leads or identify a possible suspect.

### **Juvenile justice reform and supporting system-involved youth**

#### **S.1061 / H.1923 An Act to promote public safety and better outcomes for youth**

- Sponsors: Sen. Creem, Sen. Crighton, Sen. Miranda; Rep. O'Day, Rep. Cruz
- Raises the age at which a young person is considered an adult in the eyes of the justice system. This bill would keep 18-20 year olds in the juvenile justice system instead of the adult justice system, where they receive more developmentally appropriate and supportive services.