



Fact Sheet: Strengthening Efforts Against Intimate Partner Violence

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Millions of Californians experience intimate partner violence during their lifetime, yet many struggle to access the resources they need to escape their abuser and establish a life on their own. The Little Hoover Commission released two reports in 2020-21 recommending California take stronger action to help survivors and prevent this abhorrent abuse.

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE: GETTING THE MONEY TO THOSE ON THE FRONT LINE

Organizations funded through the state's key anti-domestic violence program may wait 79 to 109 days to be reimbursed for services provided to intimate partner violence survivors. Many of these providers rely on lines of credit or reduce services to cover expenses until reimbursement checks arrive. Others, leave grant money unspent or avoid applying for it at all. We [recommended](#) California provide state funding to service providers through up-front payments. This change was implemented by [AB 673](#) in 2021.

BEYOND THE CRISIS: A LONG-TERM APPROACH TO REDUCE, PREVENT, AND RECOVER FROM INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

A siloed approach to intimate partner violence creates critical gaps in the state's response to this abuse. We [recommend](#) California take the following steps in four key areas to implement a collaborative and robust statewide strategy to reduce, prevent, and recover from this violence:

- **Governance:** Adopt a strategic approach to intimate partner violence focused on prevention and early intervention and designate a leader to be responsible for steering the state to this approach.
- **Prevention and Early Intervention:** Create and adequately fund prevention and early intervention programs while ensuring existing batterer intervention programs facilitate rehabilitation and are accessible to all.

- **Firearms:** Enforce existing domestic violence-related firearms laws by modernizing the Department of Justice's firearms databases and bolstering recruitment and retention of special agents.
- **Economic Security:** Expand, promote, and dedicate funding to resources helping survivors establish financial independence, secure housing, and gain valuable job experience.

SUPPORTED LEGISLATION

- [SB 914 \(Rubio\), Chapter 665, Statutes of 2022:](#) Requires the state to set and measure progress toward goals to prevent and end homelessness among survivors and other vulnerable populations.
- [SB 863 \(Min\), Chapter 986, Statutes of 2022:](#) Permits domestic violence death review teams to assist local agencies in identifying and reviewing domestic violence near-death cases.
- [SB 935 \(Min\), Chapter 88, Statutes of 2022:](#) Clarifies that domestic violence restraining orders can be renewed as many times as necessary.
- [SB 975 \(Min\), Chapter 989, Statutes of 2022:](#) Helps survivors of economic abuse seek relief from debt incurred through coercion or without their consent.
- [SB 513 \(Hertzberg\), 2022:](#) Would have broken down barriers for homeless pet owners seeking shelter.
- [AB 628 \(Garcia\), Chapter 323, Statutes of 2021:](#) Expands a workforce training grant program to include those at risk of committing or experiencing intimate partner violence.
- [SB 373 \(Min and Principal Coauthor Rubio\), 2021:](#) Would have prohibited debt collectors from collecting debt that occurred as a result of economic abuse.
- [SB 320 \(Eggman and Principal Coauthors Friedman and Rubio\), Chapter 685, Statutes of 2021:](#) Strengthens the processes for removing guns from those with domestic violence restraining orders.

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