



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB1851

Introduced 2/5/2025, by Sen. Mary Edly-Allen

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act
30 ILCS 105/5.1030 new

Creates the Emergency Co-Response Grant Act. Provides that the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority shall, subject to appropriation, make grants to law enforcement departments to establish or maintain a co-response unit. Defines terms, including "co-response unit" to mean a unit of a law enforcement department featuring a specially trained team focused on de-escalation that includes at least one law enforcement officer and at least one clinician or trained civilian directly dispatched to emergency calls in which a behavioral health crisis is likely to be involved. Establishes requirements for applications for grants and use of grant moneys from the Emergency Co-Response Grant Fund. Requires each law enforcement department receiving a grant under the Act to submit a report to the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Agency, which shall also be posted on each law enforcement department's website, after July 1, 2031 but before January 1, 2032 on the programmatic and fiscal savings associated with co-response units, key conclusions, populations served, the benefits conferred or realized, and resulting policy recommendations to provide guidance to the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Agency in fully implementing and scaling permanent units. Requires joint adoption of rules to implement the Act, including requirements for law enforcement department co-response units receiving grants under the Act. Repeals the Act on January 1, 2033. Amends the State Finance Act creating the Emergency Co-Response Grant Fund. Effective immediately.

LRB104 02922 AWJ 12938 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Emergency Co-Response Grant Act.

6 Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to
7 establish a grant program in order to provide and strengthen
8 community-based alternatives to law enforcement response
9 during crisis situations not related to a fire department or
10 emergency medical service response in communities where there
11 is a history and pattern of racial profiling, law enforcement
12 violence, or gaps in law enforcement service and in
13 communities where vulnerable populations live, including
14 people of color, elderly people, people with disabilities,
15 people who are gender nonconforming, people who are likely to
16 face disproportionate police contact, people who are formerly
17 incarcerated, people with immigration status issues, people
18 who are unhoused, people facing mental health crises, people
19 involved in intimate partner violence, vulnerable youth,
20 people likely to be engaged in community violence, people
21 challenged by substance abuse, and people living in areas that
22 are environmentally insecure with vulnerable populations that
23 are subject to natural or climate disasters or public health

1 emergencies.

2 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

3 "Agency" means the Illinois Criminal Justice Information
4 Authority.

5 "Co-response unit" means a unit of a law enforcement
6 department featuring a specially trained team focused on
7 de-escalation that includes at least one law enforcement
8 officer and at least one clinician or trained civilian
9 directly dispatched to emergency calls in which a behavioral
10 health crisis is likely to be involved.

11 "Law enforcement department" means a county police
12 department, municipal police department, or sheriff's office.

13 "Law enforcement department" does not include a police
14 department with a co-responder program operating under
15 Division 1.5 of Article 11 of the Illinois Municipal Code.

16 Section 15. Application for a grant. The Agency shall
17 develop a grant application form that a law enforcement
18 department shall use to apply for a grant under this Act. The
19 Agency shall consult with the Department of Financial and
20 Professional Regulation and the Illinois Law Enforcement
21 Training Standards Board in the development of the form. The
22 grant application form developed by the Agency shall require
23 the applicant to describe, at a minimum, the following:

24 (1) the law enforcement department's goals in creating

1 a co-response unit, such as providing clinical support on
2 the scene, conducting screening and assessments, reviewing
3 what is known about client history, and navigating and
4 referring to community resources;

5 (2) the personnel who will be involved in the
6 co-response unit in addition to a law enforcement officer,
7 such as clinicians, including social workers or mental
8 healthcare professionals, or trained civilians, including
9 peer support staff, peer support specialists, or peer
10 recovery coaches with lived experiences of mental illness,
11 substance use disorders, or justice involvement;

12 (3) whether any type of proactive follow-up support
13 will be provided to encourage client service and treatment
14 engagement;

15 (4) whether the co-response unit or a part of the
16 co-response unit will be targeted to intervene with
17 specific issues, such as homelessness, human trafficking,
18 or substance abuse;

19 (5) whether the co-response unit will be integrated
20 with 9-1-1 and 9-8-8 calls and any other dispatch call
21 centers;

22 (6) whether the co-response unit will be available
23 either 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or during peak call
24 hours;

25 (7) the initial and continuing training the
26 co-response unit's staff will undergo, such as training

1 about mental illness, information sharing, special
2 populations, the use of force, naloxone administration,
3 and team building and training behavioral health staff in
4 the unique working conditions and demands of law
5 enforcement;

6 (8) the detailed policies and procedures of the law
7 enforcement department that ensure and formalize
8 coordination, access to services, communication, and
9 consistency within the co-response unit;

10 (9) the standards of work of the co-response unit,
11 such as client release of information, core intake
12 information, standard data points, and tracking;

13 (10) the type of follow-up that the co-response unit
14 will provide to individuals in the community;

15 (11) the manner in which law enforcement department or
16 co-response unit will consult with local emergency
17 services personnel and community-based or grassroots
18 organizations for input and potential approaches on issues
19 related to emergency response; and

20 (12) any other requirements established by the Agency.

21 Section 20. Awarding grants; Emergency Co-Response Grant
22 Fund.

23 (a) The Emergency Co-Response Grant Fund is created as a
24 special fund in the State treasury for the purpose of
25 providing a source of funds for the Agency to make grants to

1 law enforcement departments for the establishment and
2 maintenance of co-response units.

3 (b) Subject to appropriation to the Emergency Co-Response
4 Grant Fund, the Agency shall make grants to law enforcement
5 departments to establish or maintain co-response units.

6 (c) A law enforcement department receiving a grant from
7 the Emergency Co-Response Grant Fund under this Act shall use
8 the moneys from the grant to stimulate and support involvement
9 in emergency response activities of a co-response unit,
10 including any of the following:

11 (1) Co-response unit planning and community
12 engagement.

13 (2) Co-response unit implementation.

14 (3) Co-response unit staffing, subject to the
15 requirement that grantees adhere to all applicable laws
16 relating to scope of practice, licensure, and
17 certification.

18 (4) Co-response unit facilities, subject to the
19 requirement that the facilities are to be used by the
20 grantee.

21 (5) Co-response unit operational costs, including, but
22 not limited to, startup or expansion, marketing, language
23 translation, and transportation costs.

24 (6) Consulting services for a co-response unit.

25 (7) Co-response unit staff training.

26 (8) Co-response unit evaluation, including, but not

1 limited to, evaluation of program and project efficacy,
2 staff performance, and service delivery.

3 (9) Up to 50% of the salaries of social workers or
4 behavioral and mental health staff of the co-response
5 unit, regardless of whether those social workers or
6 behavioral and mental health workers are employed by a
7 community organization or the law enforcement department.

8 Section 25. Reports. Each law enforcement department
9 receiving a grant under this Act shall submit a report to the
10 General Assembly, the Governor, and the Agency, which shall
11 also be posted on each law enforcement department's website,
12 after July 1, 2031 but before January 1, 2032 on the
13 programmatic and fiscal savings associated with co-response
14 units, key conclusions, populations served, the benefits
15 conferred or realized, and resulting policy recommendations to
16 provide guidance to the General Assembly, Governor, and Agency
17 in fully implementing and scaling permanent units.

18 Section 30. Rules. The Agency shall adopt rules to
19 implement this Act after consultation with the Department of
20 Financial and Professional Regulation and the Illinois Law
21 Enforcement Training Standards Board, including requirements
22 for law enforcement department co-response units receiving
23 grants under this Act.

1 Section 35. Repeal. This Act is repealed on January 1,
2 2033.

3 Section 100. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
4 Section 5.1030 as follows:

5 (30 ILCS 105/5.1030 new)

6 Sec. 5.1030. The Emergency Co-Response Grant Fund.

7 Section 999. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
8 becoming law.