

# HB38 INTRODUCED



1 HB38  
2 9HWYPBP-1  
3 By Representative Ensler  
4 RFD: Ways and Means General Fund  
5 First Read: 06-Feb-24  
6 PFD: 12-Jan-24



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

SYNOPSIS:

This bill would create within the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs the Community-Based Violence Prevention Program.

This bill would also provide for a pilot program to fund the establishment or expansion of community-based violence prevention programs created by municipalities, subject to appropriation.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to community outreach; to provide for the development of a Community-Based Violence Prevention Program within the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs; and to provide for a pilot program to fund the establishment or expansion of community-based violence prevention programs created by municipalities, subject to appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) There is created within the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) the Community-Based Violence Prevention Program.



## HB38 INTRODUCED

29 (b) In connection with the Community-Based Violence  
30 Prevention Program, ADECA shall do both of the following:

31 (1) Adopt by rule, in coordination with state, public,  
32 and private entities, a master plan for the program.

33 (2) Undertake a public information campaign regarding  
34 the master plan, the need for community-based violence  
35 prevention, and any programs currently active in the state.

36 (c) During the development of the master plan, ADECA  
37 shall incorporate all of the following components of  
38 successful community-based violence prevention:

39 (1) Narrow focus on a well-defined population of  
40 individuals at greatest risk for violence within an area.

41 (2) Outreach linking participants to social services  
42 and providing exit strategies from criminal activities through  
43 one-on-one coaching, mentoring, and relationship building.

44 (3) Formal mentorship activities that facilitate client  
45 engagement, build relationships, establish connections to  
46 wraparound services, and create pathways to avoid dangerous  
47 situations.

48 (4) Case management that identifies participants,  
49 connects them with timely and tailored activities or services,  
50 provides alternatives for high-risk individuals choosing to  
51 leave a life of violence, coordinates follow-up service  
52 delivery efforts, monitors progress, and captures performance  
53 outcomes.

54 (5) Community mobilization and public education that  
55 reinforces norms against violence and gives individuals the  
56 sense that they can take collective action against crime in



## HB38 INTRODUCED

57 their neighborhoods.

58 (6) Involvement of faith-based organizations and other  
59 entities that aim to change norms on violence, make known the  
60 perceived costs of violence, and deliver services to  
61 participants and their associates or friends.

62 (7) Community notification meetings where individuals  
63 involved with criminal markets or gangs are called together by  
64 criminal justice agencies and community organizations and  
65 informed that if any member of a group engages in violence,  
66 the entire group will become a priority for law enforcement.

67 (d) (1) Subject to appropriation by the Legislature,  
68 ADECA shall establish a pilot program to provide grants to  
69 municipalities to establish or expand community-based violence  
70 prevention programs based on the minimum requirements of the  
71 master plan adopted under subsection (b).

72 (2) The department shall develop an application and  
73 evaluation process for the program and shall publish all  
74 relevant details, requirements, and deadlines related to the  
75 application and evaluation process on a publicly available  
76 website.

77 (3) The department shall adopt rules to require any  
78 municipality that receives funds from the program to send  
79 regular progress reports to ADECA. Any municipality that  
80 receives program funds and subsequently fails to comply with  
81 official reporting requirements shall be required to return  
82 all funds received.

83 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October  
84 1, 2024.