

AB 236 Overview and Implementation

Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment
Coordinating Council

September 27, 2021

About CJI

The Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) at Community Resources for Justice works with local, state and national criminal justice organizations to improve public safety and the delivery of justice throughout the country

CJI provides nonpartisan policy analysis and practice assessment, capacity and sustainability-building technical assistance, research and program evaluation, and educational activities throughout the country

CJI's work in Nevada is supported by the Bureau of Justice Assistance

Overview

- Overview of AB 236 (2019)
- Update on AB 236 Implementation
- Role of the Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council

Overview of AB 236

Goals of AB 236

1. Strengthen responses to individuals with behavioral health challenges
2. Focus prison resources on those convicted of serious and violent offenses
3. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of community supervision
4. Minimize barriers to successful reentry
5. Ensure the sustainability of AB 236

Strengthen Responses to Individuals with Behavioral Health Challenges

- Standardizes crisis intervention training for law enforcement
- Trains judges on behavioral health needs
- Requires in-person clinical assessments for specialty court
- Removes barriers to probation (i.e., treatment failure)
- Creates a behavioral health field response grant program

Focus Prison Resources on Those Convicted of Serious or Violent Offenses

- Restructures penalties for drug offenses based on weight and substance
- Distinguishes penalties for burglary offenses based on location
- Raises the felony theft threshold from \$650 to \$1,200

Improve the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Community Supervision

- Requires a risk and needs assessment to guide supervision
- Establishes a system of graduated sanctions and revocation caps for responding to technical violations
- Reduces probation terms by tailoring to offense categories
- Requires a case plan to be developed based on risk and needs assessment results

Minimize Barriers to Reentry

- Requires reentry planning to occur 6 months prior to parole eligibility
- Requires agencies to collaborate on the development of the reentry plan
- Requires NDOC to provide individuals with resources to help them transition to the community

Ensure the Sustainability of AB 236

- Charges the Nevada Sentencing Commission with oversight of AB 236 implementation
- Requires ongoing data collection and analysis relating to prison, probation, and parole
- Calculates averted costs and prioritizes reinvestment in reentry, behavioral health, and transitional housing
- Establishes the Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council to report on community needs and identify grant opportunities for local agencies

Update on AB 236 Implementation

Nevada Parole and Probation

- Created graduated response matrix to respond to supervision violations
- Created case plan policy and templates
- Trained staff on new policies
- Created a fidelity monitoring working group to measure adherence to new practices
- Created a plan to train staff on effective case management; interacting with individuals with behavioral health needs and disabilities; and interacting with survivors of trauma and domestic violence

Nevada Department of Corrections

- Trained staff on case planning and risk and needs assessments
- Created reentry plans for individuals no later than 6 months before release
- Implemented a process to complete Medicaid applications for individuals up to 12 months prior to release
- Collaborated with DMV and Vital Records to provide identification to people upon release

Nevada Board of Parole Commissioners

- Created policies for early discharge from parole supervision
- Created policies and application/verification forms for geriatric parole

Nevada Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training

- Developed a standard crisis intervention curriculum
- Established standards for training of law enforcement related to crisis intervention
- Hired a Training Specialist to lay groundwork for a behavioral health field response grant program

Nevada Sentencing Commission

- Created performance measures
- Tracked and assessed outcomes resulting from the legislation
- Created outcome reports
- Calculated costs avoided by the state due to AB 236
- Created recommendations for reinvestment of costs avoided
- Established Nevada Department of Sentencing Policy

Subaward Funding

- Agencies were invited to apply for subaward funding available to JRI states through the Bureau of Justice Assistance
- Purpose of subaward funding is to support implementation of AB 236
- Nevada received two rounds of subaward funding

Nevada Local Justice Reinvestment Coordinating Council

Role of the NLJRCC

- Advise the Nevada Sentencing Commission on any matters related to implementation of AB 236 including:
 - Regulations
 - Rules
 - Budgetary changes
- Identify county-level programming and treatment needs for individuals involved in the justice system to reduce recidivism

Role of the NLJRCC

- Make recommendations to the Nevada Sentencing Commission regarding grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations from the State General Fund
 - Oversee the implementation of local grants
 - Create performance measures to assess effectiveness of the grants
- Identify opportunities for collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services at the state and county level for treatment services and funding

Questions?

Disclaimer

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