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Principal Changes to Crime Reduction Grant Act

Crime Reduction Grant Act (Section 31-28-1 NMSA 1978, et seq.)

- > Originally passed as part of a larger bill (HB 267) that passed in 2019.
- Amended in 2022 and 2023 both sets of amendments expanded the scope of the Act.

1) Composition of CJCCs (effective June 16, 2023):

Section 31-28-3 NMSA 1978

A. A criminal justice coordinating council is created for each judicial district and shall include representation from within the district for:

- (1) each court in the district;
- (2) the district attorney;
- (3) the district public defender office;
- (4) law enforcement agencies;
- (5) jails;
- (6) behavioral health programs; and
- (7) other agencies and entities agreed upon by the council.

*The 2023 changes made the membership mandatory ("may" changed to "shall"), and removed correctional facilities from the list.

2) Purposes for which grants can be made (effective June 16, 2023):

Section 31-28-4 NMSA 1978

- B. Crime reduction grants may be made to:
 - (1) develop, expand and improve evidence-based treatment and supervision alternatives to incarceration;
- (2) reduce barriers to participation by criminal offenders in preprosecution diversion or specialty court programs;
 - (3) develop or improve pretrial service programs;
- (4) develop or improve coordination of services between law enforcement agencies and treatment programs; (added 2022)
 - (5) establish law enforcement crisis intervention teams; (added 2022)
- (6) coordinate access to programs for transitional or reentry homes for individuals recently released from incarceration; *(added 2022)*
- (7) recruit or retain law enforcement officers, prosecutors, public defenders, corrections officers and mental health workers; *(added 2022)*
 - (8) develop or expand digitized records; (added 2023)
- (9) develop or expand the ability of a criminal justice coordinating council member to share data with, and access data on, the statewide criminal justice data integration platform; (added 2023)
 - (10) develop or expand data-driven policing programs and pretrial services; (added 2022)
 - (11) staff a criminal justice coordinating council; (added 2022) and
 - (12) purchase equipment or provide training to support any of the purposes provided in this section.