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AB-1664 California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program. (2021-2022)

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Assembly Bill No. 1664

CHAPTER 398

An act to amend Section 8588.9 of the Government Code, relating to state government.

[Approved by Governor September 18, 2022. Filed with Secretary of State September 18, 2022.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1664, Gabriel. California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

Existing law, until January 1, 2025, establishes the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program under the administration of the Director of the Office of Emergency Services to improve the physical security of nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of violent attacks or hate crimes due to ideology, beliefs, or mission, and repeals these provisions on that date. Existing law authorizes award recipients to use grant funds for various security enhancements, as specified. Under existing law, the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program limits the amount of any award to \$200,000.

This bill would additionally include as eligible security training. The bill would increase the amount an award recipient may be awarded from \$200,000 to \$500,000 and would authorize an award recipient to use up to 5% of grant funds towards management and administration, as described. The bill would limit the amount an award recipient may use on construction and renovation to \$100,000 of the funds awarded. The bill would require the Office of Emergency Services to provide ongoing assistance to applicants that require a vulnerability or threat assessment, as specified.

This bill would delete the above-described January 1, 2025, repeal date, thereby extending the operation of the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program indefinitely.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 8588.9 of the Government Code is amended to read:

8588.9. (a) The California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program is hereby established under the administration of the director to improve the physical security of nonprofit organizations, including schools, clinics, community centers, churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, and similar locations that are at a high risk for violent attacks or hate crimes due to ideology, beliefs, or mission.

(b) The California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program shall do all of the following:

- (1) Provide grants for the purpose of hardening soft targets that are nonprofit organizations and at a high risk for violent attacks and hate crimes, as described in subdivision (a). Grant money may be distributed to applicants for all of the following security

enhancements:

(A) Security guards.

(B) Reinforced doors and gates.

(C) High-intensity lighting and alarms.

(D) Security training.

(E) Any other security enhancement consistent with the purpose of the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program.

(2) Allow award recipients to use grant funds for the purposes of paying staff or third-party contractors or consultants to assist with the management and administration of the grant funds awarded. Award recipients shall use no more than 5 percent of the grant funds awarded for the purpose stated in this subparagraph.

(3) Limit construction or renovation activities done in support of the target hardening activities related to security, such as installing additional emergency exits, to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) of the grant funds awarded.

(c) An applicant shall not be granted an amount greater than five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

(d) The operation of the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program is contingent upon an appropriation in the annual Budget Act for purposes of this section.

(e) The director shall adopt, as necessary, application procedures, forms, administrative guidelines, and other requirements for purposes of implementing and administering the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program. All application procedures, forms, administrative guidelines, and other requirements developed by the director pursuant to this subdivision shall be exempt from the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

(f) The Office of Emergency Services shall provide ongoing technical assistance for nonprofit organizations that require a vulnerability assessment for a state application to the California State Nonprofit Security Grant Program or a threat assessment for a federal application to the Nonprofit Security Grant Program of the United States Department of Homeland Security.