

# REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

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DATE: March 29, 2022

TO: Honorable Members of the City Council

FROM: Sharon M. Tso *KEY FOR*  
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No. 22-0002-S12  
Assignment No. ~~22-02-0088~~  
22-02-0078

SUBJECT: Resolution (Lee-Blumenfield) to remove the sunset date for the California State Nonprofit Security Grants Program.

**CLA RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt Resolution (Lee-Blumenfield) to include in the City's 2021-22 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1664 which would remove the January 1, 2025 sunset date from the California State Nonprofit Security Grants Program.

## SUMMARY

Resolution (Lee-Blumenfield) states that the California State Nonprofit Security Grants Program (CSNSGP), administered by the California Office of Emergency Services, provides funding for physical security enhancements at non-profit sites that are at high risk for violent attacks. According to the Resolution, the Poway Chabad synagogue in San Diego and the Beth Israel Synagogue in Colleyville, Texas were attacked by individuals with anti-Semitic motivations. The Poway Chabad shooting incident resulted in the CSNSGP being expanded, and more funds were made available to eligible non-profit organizations, including religious institutions, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) community centers, and reproductive health facilities.

According to the Resolution, one of the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic was a wave of hate crimes and racist rhetoric targeting Asian Americans that continues to occur at a concerning rate. The Resolution notes that the legislation establishing the CSNSGP includes a sunset date of January 1, 2025, however, hate crimes continue to occur with frequency. The program is vital to the protection of vulnerable populations, including Asian Americans.

Currently pending before the California State Legislature is AB 1664 (Gabriel), which acknowledges the ongoing increase in hate crime incidents nationally and proposes to remove the January 1, 2025 sunset date from the CSNSGP. According to the Resolution, Los Angeles has the highest number of hate crimes reported in the nation, and religious institutions and service providers must have the tools they need to take precautionary measures against such attacks.

Therefore, the Resolution proposes that the City support AB 1664 to demonstrate its commitment to combatting hate and ignorance by protecting vulnerable populations and religious institutions by removing the sunset date and allowing physical security enhancements to continue.

BACKGROUND

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) is one of three grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) focus on enhancing the ability of State, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as nonprofits, to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks. These grant programs are part of a comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by DHS to help strengthen the nation’s communities against potential terrorist attacks. In FY 2021, the amount of funds provided to States under the NSGP was \$90 million. States are the only entities authorized to apply for the FY 2021 NSGP funds on behalf of eligible nonprofit organizations that have been determined to be at high risk of terrorist attack.

The FY 2021-22, the California Budget included \$50 million in CSNSGP funds for nonprofit organizations that are at high risk for violent attacks and hate crimes due to ideology, beliefs, or mission. Nonprofit organizations in the Los Angeles area received approximately \$6 million in CSNSGP funds in FY 2019. Local organizations that have been awarded CSNSG funds in the past include:

- Sephardic Congregation of the Valley
- Chabad of Pasadena, Inc.
- Los Angeles LGBT Center
- Chabad of Marina Del Rey
- Westwood Kehila
- Chabad of Greater Los Feliz
- Torat Hayim
- Al-Umma Center of Santa Clarita Valley
- Congregation of Kol Ami
- Temple Beth Shalom Long Beach, Inc.
- Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America
- Congregation Kehilas Jaakov
- Holy Martyrs Armenian Apostolic Church, Inc.
- Proyecto Pastoral

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Civil, Human Rights, and Equity Department  
Los Angeles Police Department

BILL STATUS

Introduced.	01/19/22
Referred to the Assembly Committee on Emergency Management	01/27/22

  
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 Felipe Valladolid Chavez  
 Analyst

Attachment: Resolution (Lee-Blumenfield)

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

**WHEREAS**, The California State Nonprofit Security Grants Program (CSNSGP), administered by the California Office of Emergency Services, provides funding for physical security enhancements to non-profit organizations that are at high risk for violent attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2019 and in 2022, the Poway Chabad synagogue in San Diego and the Beth Israel Synagogue in Colleyville, Texas were attacked by individuals with anti-Semitic motivations; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2019 shooting resulted in the CSNSGP being expanded, and more funds were made available to eligible non-profit organizations including religious institutions, LGBTQ community centers, reproductive health facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a wave of hate crimes and racist rhetoric targeting Asian Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation establishing the CSNSGP included a sunset date of January 1, 2025, hate crimes continue to occur at a concerning rate, and the program is still vital to the protection of vulnerable populations; and

**WHEREAS**, currently pending before the California State Legislature is AB 1664 (Gabriel) which would remove the January 1, 2025 sunset date from the CSNSGP; and

**WHEREAS**, as hate crimes continue to rise both nationally and within California, this bill acknowledges the continuing occurrences of hate-related incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, Los Angeles has the highest number of hate crimes reported in the nation, and religious institutions and service providers must have the tools they need to take precautionary measures against such attacks; and

**WHEREAS**, the City must demonstrate its commitment to combatting hate and ignorance by protecting vulnerable religious institutions and services providers, making it clear that any such attacks are unacceptable;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1664 (Gabriel) which would remove the January 1, 2025 sunset date from the California State Nonprofit Security Grants Program.

PRESENTED BY: 

JOHN S. LEE  
Councilmember, 12<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

FEB 09 2022

