

RESOLUTION

Subject: Community Violence Intervention Program Support

Submitted by: Lexington Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, in 2023 over 13,000 Kentuckians suffered from assault-related injuries resulting in Emergency department (ED) visits or inpatient hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2025, the Federal government terminated 373 federal grants from the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) worth over \$800 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the terminated OJP grants provided support for violence reduction, policing and prosecution, victims' services, juvenile justice and child protection, substance use and mental health treatment, corrections and reentry, justice system enhancements, research and evaluation, and other state- and local-level public safety functions; and

WHEREAS, among all states Kentucky was the 2nd largest recipient of OJP grant funding, amounting to over \$89 million dollars cut from public safety efforts; and

WHEREAS, JAMA Pediatrics reported that youth violence alone costs the United States over \$100 billion dollars annually; and

WHEREAS, community violence interventions have historically had broad bipartisan support in the state and national political climate; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA endorse for the reinstatement of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) grant funding which supports prevention of violence-related injury and death.