

HB 591 -- REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

SPONSOR: West

This bill creates provisions related to law enforcement "clearance rates", defined in the bill as the rate at which law enforcement agencies clear an "offense by arrest" or an "offense cleared by exceptional means", also defined in the bill.

This bill requires law enforcement agencies in the state to collect data documenting clearance rates and report the data on a monthly basis to the Department of Public Safety beginning on January 1, 2026. The Department must publish the information quarterly on its website by the 15th of the month following the close of the preceding quarter. The Department must report the information to the Governor, the Missouri Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Commission, the chair of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence and the chair of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee by July 1, 2027, and every July after. The report must also be available on the Department's website.

The bill creates the "Missouri Violent Crime Clearance Grant Program" within the Department of Public Safety, the purpose of which is to improve law enforcement strategies and initiatives aimed at increasing violent crime clearance rates. The bill describes eligible uses for grant funding as well as to which law enforcement agencies the Department will give priority in awarding grants. Agencies awarded grant funding must report to the Department annually on the activities carried out to reduce violent crime and improve clearance rates during the preceding fiscal year, as specified in the bill.

This bill is similar to SB 473 (2025).