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AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 20, 2001

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 586**

**Introduced by Senator Murray**

February 22, 2001

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An act to add Section 5004.5 to the Public Resources Code, relating to parks and recreation, *and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 586, as amended, Murray. Parks and recreation: California Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program.

Existing law requires the Department of Parks and Recreation to implement and administer various park and recreational programs at state and local parks.

This bill would establish the California Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program, and would require the department to administer the program, which is intended to provide assistance and grants to local agencies and community-based organizations, *as defined*, with regard to funding and fostering the development of new youth soccer, baseball, and basketball recreation opportunities in the state. The bill would require the department to report to specified legislative budget committees regarding the need for specified recreational facilities in the state, and capital improvements of these facilities, to be used for the program.

The bill would create the California Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Fund in the State Treasury, which would be used for the deposit of funds derived from federal, state, and private sources to be used for the program. The bill would require the department to award grants, on a competitive basis, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature therefor, to local agencies and community-based



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organizations for the purposes of the program, and to develop eligibility guidelines for awarding grants that give preference to certain heavily populated, urban, low-income communities, as provided.

*The bill would transfer the sum of \$20,000,000 to the fund, and would appropriate that amount to the department to be expended for the program, but would prohibit the expenditure of more than 5% of that amount for the department's administrative costs.*

Vote: ~~majority~~ <sup>2/3</sup>. Appropriation: ~~no~~ yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (a) Urban recreation and sports programs are a proven,  
4 commonsense, and cost-effective means of preventing crime and  
5 delinquency. Investment in recreation is not a luxury, but rather is  
6 an investment in our security and health, and in the stability of our  
7 cities.

8 (b) Recreation, team sports, and games build self-esteem,  
9 confidence, social harmony, independent thinking, self-discipline,  
10 good manners, health, and skills in conflict resolution.

11 (c) Demand for recreation and needs for accessible,  
12 well-maintained, and lighted places to recreate far exceeds our  
13 available supply of recreational facilities.

14 (d) It is cost-effective to invest in recreational rather than in  
15 incarceration facilities. The cost of keeping one teenager in  
16 detention for one year approaches thirty thousand dollars  
17 (\$30,000).

18 (e) Urban recreation programs have a proven track record of  
19 reducing juvenile crime by more than 50 percent in some cities and  
20 by 90 percent in other major cities.

21 (f) Many of our cities suffer from a severe shortage of  
22 accessible recreation areas; a problem that is particularly acute in  
23 low-income and underserved communities.

24 SEC. 2. Section 5004.5 is added to the Public Resources  
25 Code, to read:

26 5004.5. (a) The California Youth Soccer and Recreation  
27 Development Program is hereby created in the department. The  
28 department shall administer the program, which is intended to

1 provide assistance to local agencies and community-based  
2 organizations with regard to funding, and fostering the  
3 development of, new youth soccer, baseball, and basketball  
4 recreation opportunities in the state.

5 (b) The department shall report to the Assembly Committee on  
6 Budget and the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee on  
7 the need for soccer and baseball fields and basketball courts in the  
8 state, and the need for lighting, maintenance, and capital  
9 improvements to develop and improve existing recreational areas,  
10 with special emphasis on the development of soccer, baseball, and  
11 basketball facilities. The department shall coordinate with local  
12 agencies and community-based organizations to identify those  
13 areas in the state where there is a shortage of appropriate  
14 recreational facilities, particularly in heavily populated, urban,  
15 low-income, and crime ridden areas.

16 (c) The California Youth Soccer and Recreation Development  
17 Fund is hereby created in the State Treasury, to be used as a  
18 repository of funds derived from federal, state, and private sources  
19 to be used for the program.

20 (d) The department shall award grants, on a competitive basis,  
21 to local agencies and community-based organizations for the  
22 purposes of the program, subject to an appropriation therefor. The  
23 department shall also develop eligibility guidelines for the award  
24 of grants that give preference to those communities that provide  
25 matching funds for grants, and that are heavily populated,  
26 low-income, urban areas with a high youth crime and  
27 unemployment rate. The guidelines shall also require that  
28 preference be given to those inner city properties that may be  
29 leased for periods of at least five years or more for recreational  
30 purposes. The department shall conduct public hearings  
31 throughout the state prior to final adoption of eligibility  
32 guidelines.

33 (e) *For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have*  
34 *the following meanings:*

35 (1) *“Community-based organization” means an organization*  
36 *that enters into a cooperative agreement with the department*  
37 *pursuant to Section 513, a nonprofit group or organization, or a*  
38 *‘friends of parks’ group or organization of a city, county, and*  
39 *regional park.*



1       (2) "Local agency" means a city, county, city and county, park  
2 and recreation district, open-space district, or school district.

3       SEC. 3. (a) The sum of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000)  
4 is hereby transferred from the General Fund to the California  
5 Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Fund and is hereby  
6 appropriated from that fund to the Department of Parks and  
7 Recreation to be expended for the purposes of Section 5004.5 of the  
8 Public Resources Code.

9       (b) Not more than five percent of the amount appropriated to  
10 the department pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be expended for  
11 the administrative costs necessary to implement Section 5004.5 of  
12 the Public Resources Code.

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Appropriations Committee Fiscal Summary

	586 (Murray)
Hearing Date: 5/14/01	Amended: 3/20/01
Consultant: Lisa Matocq	Policy Vote: N R & W 7-1

BILL SUMMARY:

SB 586 establishes the California Youth Soccer and Recreation Development (YSRD) Program, to be administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), and appropriates \$20 million from the General Fund to DPR to provide grants to local agencies and community-based organizations to expand recreational opportunities in underserved areas, as specified.

STAFF COMMENTS: This bill meets the criteria for referral to the Suspense File. The bill: establishes the California Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Fund, caps DPR's administrative costs at 5%, requires DPR to hold public hearings to determine eligibility guidelines, requires DPR to report to the Legislature on recreational needs, and to identify underserved areas, as specified, authorizes DPR to award grants, on a competitive basis, to local agencies (including, but not limited to, school districts, and park and recreation districts), and community-based organizations, as specified.

STAFF RECOMMENDS that the bill be amended to specify a due date for the report.

STAFF NOTES that DPR staff estimate that they will have costs in excess of the 5% allocation of \$110,000-\$170,000 due to the reporting and public hearings provisions.

According to the author's staff, the appropriation is intended to be one-time.



OFFICE OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL

STEVE COHN

COUNCILMEMBER  
DISTRICT THREE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
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April 24, 2001

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The Honorable Sheila Kuehl, Chair  
Senate Natural Resources Committee  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 586 (Murray) Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program**  
**SUPPORT IF AMENDED**

Dear Senator Kuehl:

The City of Sacramento administers a wide variety of recreational activities in addition to those addressed in SB 586 and will support SB 586 with amendments to include all recreational activities at state and local parks.

As SB 586 states, recreation is a "proven, commonsense, and cost-effective means of preventing crime and delinquency." The City of Sacramento fosters the development of a variety of recreational opportunities and requests that SB 586 address more activities than the three listed in this bill. Not all forms of recreation appeal to all teenagers. Recreational activities such as fencing, skateboarding, and aquatics appeal to some teenagers while "new youth soccer, baseball, and basketball" appeal to others.

**With an amendment to include all forms of recreational activity, the City of Sacramento would strongly support SB 586.**

Sincerely,

**STEVE COHN**  
Chair, Law and Legislation Committee  
Sacramento City Council

c: Senator Kevin Murray  
Members, Senate Natural Resources Committee  
Ken Emanuels