

2018 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Ready for Notebook

Tab	Action	Option	Version
270	1	B	1

Budget Action Title: Report regarding how the Executive plans to implement Resolution 31775

Ongoing: No

Primary Sponsor: González, M. Lorena

Councilmembers: Harris-Talley; Johnson

Staff Analyst: Asha Venkataraman

Date		Total	SB	KH	LG	BH	LH	RJ	DJ	MO	KS
	Yes										
	No										
	Abstain										
	Absent										

Statement of Legislative Intent:

Background

Resolution 31775 was adopted by Council October 2, 2017. It recognizes that effective law enforcement needs the participation and cooperation of crime victims and witnesses and that immigrants and refugees may fear and be reluctant to contact law enforcement, particularly in the current political climate. The Resolution requested the Executive work with community based organizations and immigrant and refugee communities: (1) to build knowledge, capacity, and trust for immigrant victims, survivors, and witnesses to feel safer in reporting crimes and to provide information on potential protections, (2) to identify concrete strategies to improve language access practices for these communities, and (3) to gain a qualitative sense of whether there has been a chilling effect and reduced reporting of crime by immigrant and refugee communities. Under that Resolution, the Executive is to report to Council by April 30, 2018.

Statement of Legislative Intent

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) builds on the report requested for Resolution 31775, and requests that the Executive determine:

- How much it would cost Executive departments or community-based organizations to implement each strategy identified in item (2) above;
- If the City does determine that there has been a chilling effect reducing the reporting of crime, strategies to fight the chilling effect and encourage reporting of crime by immigrant and refugee

communities, as well as how much it would cost Executive departments or community-based organizations to implement those strategies; and

- How to continue convening community based organizations and immigrant and refugee communities on an ongoing basis to ensure the City is continuing to respond to emerging needs related to the issues identified in Resolution 31775.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Gender Equity, Safe Communities and New Americans Committee

Date Due to Council: April 30, 2018