



COLORADO

Division of Criminal Justice

Department of Public Safety

Overview: Office for Victims Programs

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OVP Programs

- Crime Victim Services Funding
- Human Trafficking Council
- Victim Rights Compliance
- Sexual Assault Victim Emergency (SAVE) Program
- Standards and technical assistance for Victim Compensation
- Standards and technical assistance for local Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement (VALE)

Victim Rights Act (VRA)

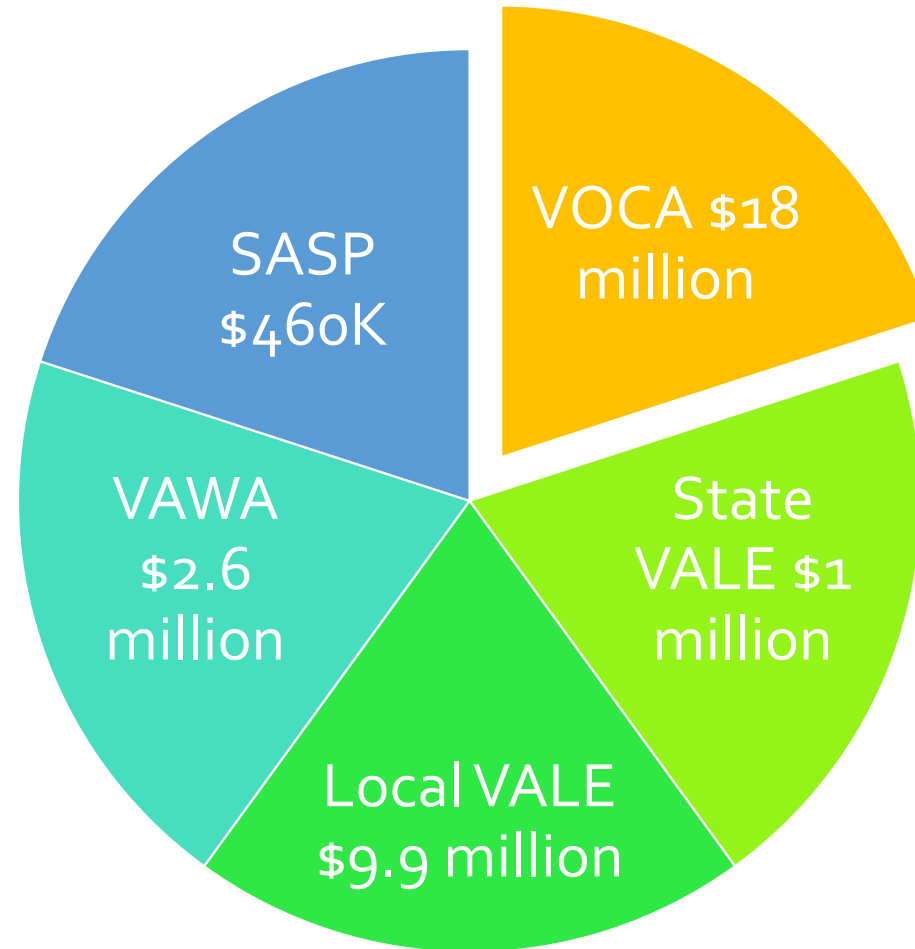
SB22-49

- Stakeholder process began in August of 2021
- Introduced as an early bill in the Senate
- Clean-up bill to keep up with changes made in other parts of the CJ system
- Next hearing: House Judiciary on 4/13

VRA Highlights

- Updated language to continue virtual appearances at court
- New crimes: First-degree arson and Invasion of Privacy
- Updated definition of victim
- Right to be heard at a sealing hearing
- Clarification on the initial police report provided to victims
- Clarification language when there is a subpoena for a victim's records
- Consultation on diversion cases
- Truth and sentencing

Victim Services Funding



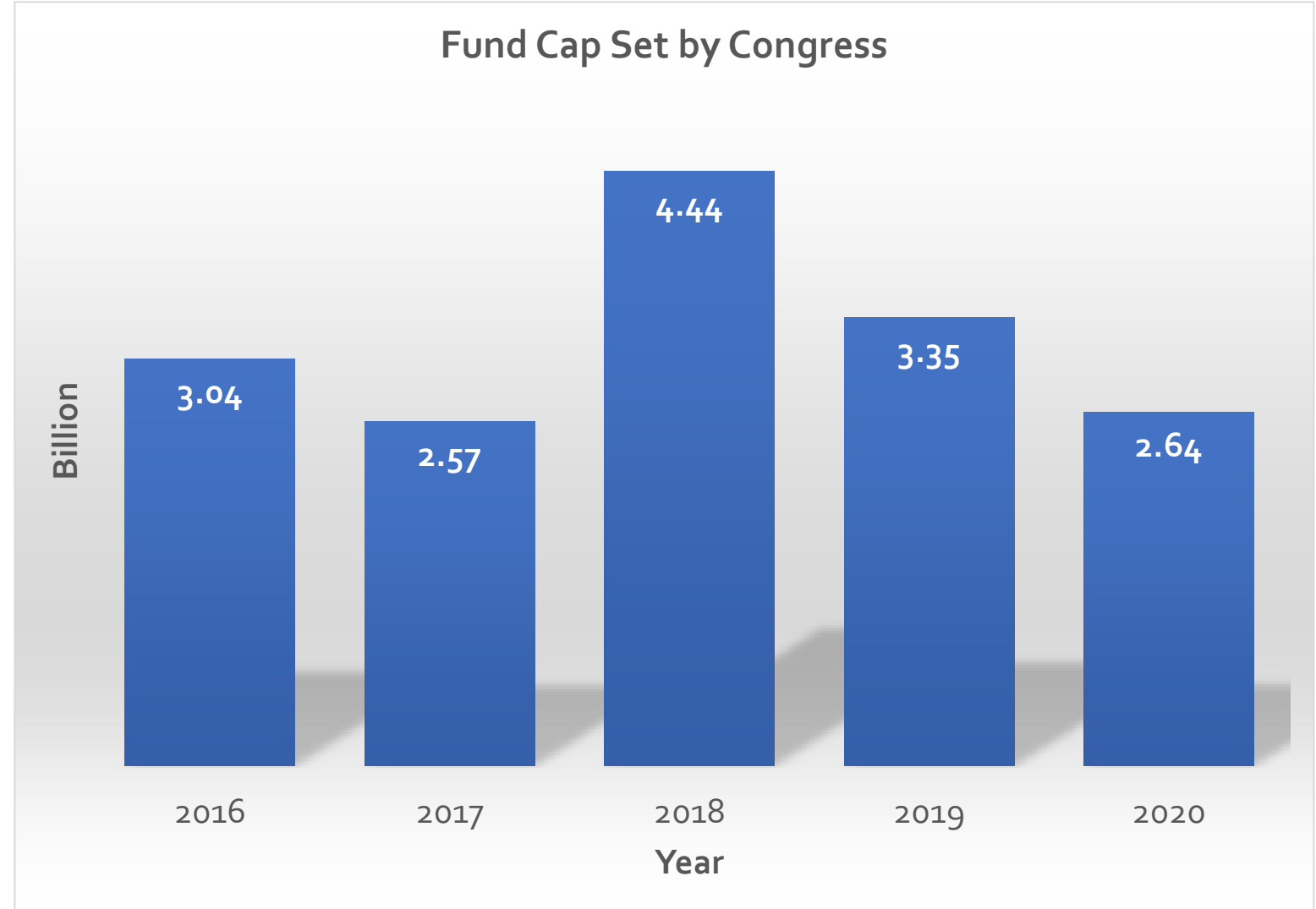
Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

- Each state receives a formula grant based on population from the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to help support victim services
- Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) is the state administering agency (SAA) for this grant program
- VOCA funds are distributed as part of a competitive grant process every 2 years – “Crime Victim Service Funds”

How is VOCA funded?

- Fines and penalties levied against criminals convicted of **federal** crimes
- Forfeited bail bonds
- Special assessments from the US Attorney's Office
- Congress sets a cap on the amount of funds that can be distributed each year by OVC

The VOCA Cap



Sustaining victim services

- OVP's VOCA award had its highest award in 2018 approx. \$58 million
- The 2021 VOCA award was approx. \$18 million (68% reduction)
- Last funding cycle OVP awarded \$93 million in VOCA awards for a 2-year period
- This funding cycle we announced \$55.5 million (41% cut)

Sustaining Victim Services

Efforts this legislative session

- Stakeholder work led by the 3 state victim service coalitions and DCJ for the past year with Senator Winter and Rep Duran
- SB22-183 – Concerning Programs that Provide Services to Crime Victims
- Requests \$35 million to fill the VOCA gap and \$6 million to support the Domestic Violence Program (DVP) at CDHS