

Staff Memorandum 2026-08
Staff Proposal for Report on Committee's Accomplishments

Staff recommends that the Committee direct the staff to prepare and publish a report detailing and putting in context the Committee's accomplishment since forming on January 1, 2020.

Such a report is timely because it would generally coincide with the end of Governor Newsom's tenure. Governor Newsom signed the bill creating the Committee in 2019 and appoints five of the members.¹ Beyond that, he spoke at the Committee's initial meeting in January 2020 and has signed numerous bills into law implementing Committee recommendations.

With Governor Newsom's time as Governor ending this year, this report would look back on the Committee's accomplishments while he was Governor and also collect those recommendations that have yet to become law. The report would show the drop in prison and jail populations during the Governor's tenure — and also highlight the low crime rates California is currently experiencing. This report would not just help mark the end of Governor Newsom's time as governor, but also be a useful one-stop policy roadmap for the next Governor and other decision-makers.

The report would have two parts. First, data on crime rates and jail and prison populations, similar to what is in each year's Annual Report. The other part would be a comprehensive list of all recommendations the Committee has made organized by subject matter and indicating which recommendations have become law and which have not.

The ideal time to release the report would be this summer soon after official crime statistics for 2025 are released by the California Department of Justice. If the Committee is interested in such a report, staff recommends voting at the May meeting that staff draft the report and finalize it with the Committee chair's supervision, similar to how the Committee's Annual Report is finalized every year.² Since the Committee is not scheduled to meet after the May meeting until September, this would allow the report to be completed and released around the time the final crime statistics are published.

Staff looks forward to discussing this proposal at the May meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ See SB 94 (2019 Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review).

² See Staff Memorandum 2025-18.