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Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, reintroduced legislation on Thursday to create a national gang activity database to allow law enforcement officials nationwide to track and share information about gang members and their activities.

"I sat down with members of the Tracy Police Department and local elected officials to discuss how I can be of assistance as they work to combat gang violence," McNerney said in a news release. "The bill I wrote will help local law enforcement agencies address gang violence by creating a mechanism to share information nationally."

If Congress approves it, the National Safe Streets Gang Crime Prevention Act of 2011, House of Representatives Bill 928, will create a database to disseminate information on gangs, gang members, firearms, criminal activities, vehicles and other information.

The database, administered by the Department of Justice, would be available for use by investigators to solve and reduce gang-related crimes, allowing law enforcement officials to track the movement of gangs and members throughout a region and coordinate law enforcement response.

"While meeting with the police department in Tracy, I learned how they are using analysis of crime patterns and gang activity to allocate resources," McNerney said. "The database my legislation creates will aid them in this process by providing access to pertinent and current information from across the country."

McNerney first introduced a version of the legislation in 2007. The bill will be referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

