

Calendar No. 559

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 465****[Report No. 118-244]**

To require Federal law enforcement agencies to report on cases of missing or murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

 IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. ROUNDS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs

NOVEMBER 18, 2024

Reported by Mr. SCHATZ, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To require Federal law enforcement agencies to report on cases of missing or murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) ~~SHORT TITLE.~~—This Act may be cited as the
5 ~~“Bridging Agency Data Gaps and Ensuring Safety for~~

1 Native Communities Act” or the “BADGES for Native
2 Communities Act”.

3 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
4 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—BRIDGING AGENCY DATA GAPS

Sec. 101. National Missing and Unidentified Persons System Tribal facilitator.

Sec. 102. Report on Indian country law enforcement personnel resources and
need.

TITLE II—ENSURING SAFETY FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Sec. 201. Demonstration program on Bureau of Indian Affairs law enforcement
employment background checks.

Sec. 202. Missing and murdered response coordination grant program.

Sec. 203. GAO study on Federal law enforcement agency evidence collection,
handling, and processing.

Sec. 204. Bureau of Indian Affairs and Tribal law enforcement officer coun-
seling resources interdepartmental coordination.

5 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

6 In this Act:

7 (1) DEATH INVESTIGATION.—The term “death
8 investigation” has the meaning determined by the
9 Attorney General.

10 (2) DEATH INVESTIGATION OF INTEREST TO
11 INDIAN TRIBES.—The term “death investigation of
12 interest to Indian Tribes” means a case involving—

13 (A) a death investigation into the death of
14 an Indian; or

15 (B) a death investigation of a person found
16 on, in, or adjacent to Indian land or a Village.

1 (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
2 the Director of the Office of Justice Services.

3 (4) FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—
4 The term “Federal law enforcement agency” means
5 the Bureau of Indian Affairs direct-service police,
6 the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any other
7 Federal law enforcement agency that—

8 (A) has jurisdiction over crimes in Indian
9 country; or

10 (B) investigates missing persons cases of
11 interest to Indian Tribes, death investigations
12 of interest to Indian Tribes, unclaimed remains
13 cases of interest to Indian Tribes, or unidenti-
14 fied remains cases of interest to Indian Tribes.

15 (5) INDIAN.—The term “Indian” has the mean-
16 ing given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-
17 Determination and Education Assistance Act (25
18 U.S.C. 5304).

19 (6) INDIAN COUNTRY.—The term “Indian coun-
20 try” has the meaning given the term in section 1151
21 of title 18, United States Code.

22 (7) INDIAN LAND.—The term “Indian land”
23 has the meaning given the term “Indian lands” in
24 section 3 of the Native American Business Develop-

1 ment, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000
2 (25 U.S.C. 4302).

3 (8) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe”
4 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the
5 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
6 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

7 (9) MISSING.—The term “missing” has the
8 meaning determined by the Attorney General.

9 (10) MISSING PERSONS CASE OF INTEREST TO
10 INDIAN TRIBES.—The term “missing persons case of
11 interest to Indian Tribes” means a case involving—

12 (A) a missing Indian; or

13 (B) a missing person whose last known lo-
14 cation is believed to be on, in, or adjacent to In-
15 dian land or a Village.

16 (11) NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION DATA-
17 BASES.—The term “national crime information
18 databases” has the meaning given the term in sec-
19 tion 534(f)(3) of title 28, United States Code.

20 (12) RELEVANT TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The
21 term “relevant Tribal organization” means, as appli-
22 cable—

23 (A) a tribal organization or an urban In-
24 dian organization; and

1 (B) a national or regional organization
2 that—

3 (i) represents a substantial Indian
4 constituency; and

5 (ii) has expertise in the fields of—

6 (I) human trafficking of Indians;

7 (II) human trafficking on Indian
8 land or in a Village;

9 (III) violence against Indian
10 women and children; or

11 (IV) tribal justice systems.

12 (13) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
13 means the Secretary of the Interior.

14 (14) SEXUAL ASSAULT CASE OF INTEREST TO
15 INDIAN TRIBES.—The term “sexual assault case of
16 interest to Indian Tribes” means a case involving an
17 allegation of a felony under chapter 109A or 110 of
18 title 18, United States Code, committed against an
19 Indian by another Indian or a non-Indian.

20 (15) TRIBAL JUSTICE OFFICIAL.—The term
21 “tribal justice official” has the meaning given the
22 term in section 2 of the Indian Law Enforcement
23 Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2801).

24 (16) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “tribal
25 organization” has the meaning given the term in

1 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
 2 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

3 ~~(17) UNCLAIMED REMAINS CASE OF INTEREST~~
 4 ~~TO INDIAN TRIBES.—~~The term “unclaimed remains
 5 case of interest to Indian Tribes” means a case in-
 6 volving—

7 (A) unclaimed Indian remains; or

8 (B) unclaimed remains found on, in, or ad-
 9 jacent to Indian land or a Village.

10 ~~(18) UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS CASE OF INTER-~~
 11 ~~EST TO INDIAN TRIBES.—~~The term “unidentified re-
 12 mains case of interest to Indian Tribes” means a
 13 case involving—

14 (A) unidentified Indian remains; or

15 (B) unidentified remains found on, in, or
 16 adjacent to Indian land or a Village.

17 ~~(19) URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATION.—~~The term
 18 “urban Indian organization” has the meaning given
 19 the term in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Im-
 20 provement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).

21 ~~(20) VILLAGE.—~~The term “Village” means the
 22 Alaska Native Village Statistical Area covering all or
 23 any portion of a Native village (as defined in section
 24 3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43
 25 U.S.C. 1602)), as depicted on the applicable Tribal

1 Statistical Area Program Verification Map of the
 2 Bureau of the Census.

3 **TITLE I—BRIDGING AGENCY**
 4 **DATA GAPS**

5 **SEC. 101. NATIONAL MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS**
 6 **SYSTEM TRIBAL FACILITATOR.**

7 (a) APPOINTMENT.—The Attorney General, acting
 8 through the Director of the National Institute of Justice,
 9 shall appoint 1 or more Tribal facilitators for the National
 10 Missing and Unidentified Persons System.

11 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of a Tribal facilitator ap-
 12 pointed under subsection (a) shall include—

13 (1) coordinating the reporting of information
 14 relating to missing persons cases of interest to In-
 15 dian Tribes, unclaimed remains cases of interest to
 16 Indian Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of in-
 17 terest to Indian Tribes;

18 (2) consulting and coordinating with Indian
 19 Tribes and relevant Tribal organizations to address
 20 the reporting, documentation, and tracking of miss-
 21 ing persons cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-
 22 claimed remains cases of Interest to Indian Tribes,
 23 and unidentified remains cases of interest to Indian
 24 Tribes;

1 (3) developing working relationships, and main-
2 taining communication, with Indian Tribes and rel-
3 evant Tribal organizations;

4 (4) providing technical assistance and training
5 to Indian Tribes and relevant Tribal organizations,
6 victim service advocates, medical examiners, coro-
7 ners, and tribal justice officials regarding—

8 (A) the gathering and reporting of infor-
9 mation to the National Missing and Unidenti-
10 fied Persons System; and

11 (B) working with non-Tribal law enforce-
12 ment agencies to ensure missing persons cases
13 of interest to Indian Tribes, unclaimed remains
14 cases of interest to Indian Tribes, and unidenti-
15 fied remains cases of interest to Indian Tribes
16 are reported to the National Missing and Un-
17 identified Persons System;

18 (5) coordinating with the Office of Tribal Jus-
19 tice, the Office of Justice Services, the Executive Of-
20 fice for United States Attorneys, and the National
21 Indian Country Training Initiative, as necessary;
22 and

23 (6) conducting other training, information gath-
24 ering, and outreach activities to improve resolution
25 of missing persons cases of interest to Indian Tribes,

1 unclaimed remains cases of interest to Indian
2 Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of interest to
3 Indian Tribes.

4 (c) REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY.—

5 (1) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—During
6 the ~~3-year~~ period beginning on the date of enact-
7 ment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting
8 through the Director of the National Institute of
9 Justice, shall submit to the Committees on Indian
10 Affairs, the Judiciary, and Appropriations of the
11 Senate and the Committees on Natural Resources,
12 the Judiciary, and Appropriations of the House of
13 Representatives an annual report—

14 (A) describing the activities and accom-
15 plishments of the ~~1~~ or more Tribal facilitators
16 appointed under subsection (a) during the ~~1~~-
17 year period preceding the date of the report;
18 and

19 (B) summarizing—

20 (i) the number of missing persons
21 cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-
22 claimed remains cases of interest to Indian
23 Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of
24 interest to Indian Tribes that the Tribal
25 facilitator can identify in the National

1 Missing and Unidentified Persons System;
2 and

3 (ii) the percentage of missing persons
4 cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-
5 claimed remains cases of interest to Indian
6 Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of
7 interest to Indian Tribes closed during the
8 1-year period preceding the date of the re-
9 port that the Tribal facilitator can identify
10 in the National Missing and Unidentified
11 Persons System.

12 (2) PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY.—Annually, the At-
13 torney General, acting through the Director of the
14 National Institute of Justice, shall publish on a
15 website publicly accessible information—

16 (A) describing the activities and accom-
17 plishments of the 1 or more Tribal facilitators
18 appointed under subsection (a) during the 1-
19 year period preceding the date of the publica-
20 tion; and

21 (B) summarizing—

22 (i) the number of missing persons
23 cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-
24 claimed remains cases of interest to Indian
25 Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of

1 interest to Indian Tribes that the Tribal
 2 facilitator can identify in the National
 3 Missing and Unidentified Persons System;
 4 and

5 (ii) the percentage of missing persons
 6 cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-
 7 claimed remains cases of interest to Indian
 8 Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of
 9 interest to Indian Tribes closed during the
 10 1-year period preceding the date of the re-
 11 port that the Tribal facilitator can identify
 12 in the National Missing and Unidentified
 13 Persons System.

14 **SEC. 102. REPORT ON INDIAN COUNTRY LAW ENFORCE-**
 15 **MENT PERSONNEL RESOURCES AND NEED.**

16 (a) DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF JUS-
 17 TICE SERVICES.—Section 3(e)(16) of the Indian Law En-
 18 forcement Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2802(e)(16)) is amend-
 19 ed by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the fol-
 20 lowing:

21 “(C) a list of the unmet—

22 “(i) staffing needs of law enforcement,
 23 corrections, and court personnel, including
 24 criminal investigators, medical examiners,
 25 coroners, forensic technicians, indigent de-

1 fense staff, and prosecution staff, at tribal
 2 and Bureau of Indian Affairs justice agen-
 3 eies;

4 “(ii) replacement and repair needs of
 5 tribal and Bureau of Indian Affairs correc-
 6 tions facilities;

7 “(iii) infrastructure and capital needs
 8 for tribal police and court facilities, includ-
 9 ing evidence storage and processing; and

10 “(iv) public safety and emergency
 11 communications and technology needs;
 12 and”.

13 (b) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.—

14 (1) DEFINITION OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 15 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—In this subsection,
 16 the term “Department of Justice law enforcement
 17 agency”² means each of—

18 (A) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

19 (B) the Drug Enforcement Administration;

20 (C) the United States Marshals Service;

21 (D) the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Fire-
 22 arms and Explosives; and

23 (E) the Offices of the United States Attor-
 24 neys.

1 (2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each fiscal year, the
2 Attorney General shall submit to the Committees on
3 Indian Affairs, the Judiciary, and Appropriations of
4 the Senate and the Committees on Natural Re-
5 sources, the Judiciary, and Appropriations of the
6 House of Representatives a report describing for
7 that fiscal year—

8 (A) the number of full-time employees of
9 each Department of Justice law enforcement
10 agency that are assigned to work on criminal
11 investigations and prosecutions in Indian coun-
12 try; and

13 (B) the percentage of time the full-employ-
14 ees spend specifically working in Indian coun-
15 try.

16 (3) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—

17 (A) STUDY.—

18 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18
19 months after the date on which the first
20 annual report is submitted under para-
21 graph (2), the Comptroller General of the
22 United States shall conduct a study that
23 examines any identified unmet staffing
24 needs for Department of Justice law en-
25 forcement agencies tasked with work on

1 criminal investigations and prosecutions in
2 Indian country.

3 (ii) REQUIREMENT.—In conducting
4 the study required under clause (i), the
5 Comptroller General of the United States
6 shall take into account the results of the
7 most recent report, as of the date of enact-
8 ment of this Act, relating to Indian coun-
9 try investigations and prosecutions pre-
10 pared by the Attorney General pursuant to
11 section 10(b) of the Indian Law Enforce-
12 ment Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2809(b)).

13 (B) REPORT.—On completion of the study
14 under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller Gen-
15 eral of the United States shall submit to the
16 Committees on Indian Affairs, the Judiciary,
17 and Appropriations of the Senate and the Com-
18 mittees on Natural Resources, the Judiciary,
19 and Appropriations of the House of Representa-
20 tives a report that describes the results of the
21 study, including, as appropriate, proposals for
22 methods by which the Department of Justice
23 can better measure the unmet staffing needs for
24 Department of Justice law enforcement agen-

1 cies tasked with work on criminal investigations
2 and prosecutions in Indian country.

3 **TITLE II—ENSURING SAFETY**
4 **FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES**

5 **SEC. 201. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM ON BUREAU OF IN-**
6 **DIAN AFFAIRS LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOY-**
7 **MENT BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
10 a demonstration program for the purpose of con-
11 ducting or adjudicating, in coordination with the Di-
12 rector of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, personnel
13 background investigations for applicants for law en-
14 forcement positions in the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

15 (2) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AND SECUR-
16 ITY CLEARANCE DETERMINATIONS.—

17 (A) BIA INVESTIGATIONS.—As part of the
18 demonstration program established under para-
19 graph (1), the Secretary may carry out a back-
20 ground investigation, security clearance deter-
21 mination, or both a background investigation
22 and a security clearance determination for an
23 applicant for a law enforcement position in the
24 Bureau of Indian Affairs.

1 (B) USE OF PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS
2 AND DETERMINATIONS.—

3 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
4 (ii), as part of the demonstration program
5 established under paragraph (1), the Sec-
6 retary, in adjudicating background inves-
7 tigations for applicants for law enforce-
8 ment positions in the Bureau of Indian Af-
9 fairs, shall consider previous background
10 investigations for an applicant, security
11 clearance determinations for an applicant,
12 or both background investigations and se-
13 curity clearance determinations for an ap-
14 plicant, as the case may be, that have been
15 conducted by a State or local government,
16 Indian Tribe, tribal organization, or the
17 Bureau of Indian Affairs, within the 5-year
18 period preceding the application for em-
19 ployment with the Bureau of Indian Af-
20 fairs.

21 (ii) QUALITY.—The Secretary shall
22 only consider previous background inves-
23 tigations and security clearance determina-
24 tions for an applicant that have been con-
25 ducted by a State or local government, In-

1 dian Tribe, or tribal organization if the
2 Secretary can verify that those previous in-
3 vestigations and determinations, as the
4 case may be, are of a comparable quality
5 and thoroughness to investigations and de-
6 terminations carried out by the Bureau of
7 Indian Affairs, the Office of Personnel
8 Management, or another Federal agency.

9 (iii) ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION.—If,
10 as described in clause (i), the Secretary
11 considers an existing background investiga-
12 tion, security clearance determination, or
13 both, as the case may be, for an applicant
14 that has been carried out by a State or
15 local government, Indian Tribe, tribal or-
16 ganization, or the Bureau of Indian Af-
17 fairs, the Secretary—

18 (I) may carry out additional in-
19 vestigation and examination of the ap-
20 plicant if the Secretary determines
21 that such additional information is
22 needed in order to make an appro-
23 priate determination as to the char-
24 acter and trustworthiness of the appli-
25 cant before final adjudication can be

1 made and a security clearance can be
2 issued; and

3 ~~(H)~~ shall not initiate a new back-
4 ground investigation process with the
5 National Background Investigations
6 Bureau or other Federal agency un-
7 less that new background investiga-
8 tion process covers a period of time
9 that was not covered by a previous
10 background investigation process.

11 ~~(iv)~~ AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary
12 may enter into a Memorandum of Agree-
13 ment with a State or local government, In-
14 dian Tribe, or tribal organization to de-
15 velop steps to expedite the process of re-
16 ceiving and obtaining access to background
17 investigation and security clearance deter-
18 minations for use in the demonstration
19 program.

20 ~~(3)~~ SUNSET.—The demonstration program es-
21 tablished under paragraph ~~(1)~~ shall terminate 5
22 years after the date of the commencement of the
23 demonstration program.

24 ~~(b)~~ SUFFICIENCY.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
25 sion of law, a background investigation conducted or adju-

1 dicated by the Secretary pursuant to the demonstration
2 program authorized under subsection (a) that results in
3 the granting of a security clearance to an applicant for
4 a law enforcement position in the Bureau of Indian Affairs
5 shall be sufficient to meet the applicable requirements of
6 the Office of Personnel Management or other Federal
7 agency for such investigations.

8 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to
9 the Committees on Indian Affairs, the Judiciary, and Ap-
10 propriations of the Senate and the Committees on Natural
11 Resources, the Judiciary, and Appropriations of the House
12 of Representatives an annual report on the demonstration
13 program established under subsection (a)(1), which shall
14 include a description of—

15 (1) the demonstration program and any rel-
16 evant annual changes or updates to the program;

17 (2) the number of background investigations
18 carried out under the program;

19 (3) the costs, including any cost savings, associ-
20 ated with the investigation and adjudication process
21 under the program;

22 (4) the processing times for the investigation
23 and adjudication processes under the program;

1 (5) any Memoranda of Agreement entered into
2 with State or local government, Indian Tribe, or
3 tribal organization; and

4 (6) any other information that the Secretary
5 determines to be relevant.

6 (d) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—

7 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 18
8 months after the date on which the demonstration
9 program established under subsection (a)(1) com-
10 mences, the Comptroller General of the United
11 States shall prepare and submit to Congress an ini-
12 tial report on such demonstration program.

13 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months
14 after the date on which the demonstration program
15 terminates under subsection (a)(3), the Comptroller
16 General of the United States shall prepare and sub-
17 mit to Congress a final report on such demonstra-
18 tion program.

19 (3) TRIBAL INPUT.—In preparing the reports
20 under this subsection, the Comptroller General of
21 the United States shall obtain input from Indian
22 Tribes regarding the demonstration program under
23 this section.

1 **SEC. 202. MISSING AND MURDERED RESPONSE COORDINA-**
 2 **TION GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.**—The At-
 4 torney General shall establish within the Office of Justice
 5 Programs a grant program under which the Attorney Gen-
 6 eral shall make grants to eligible entities described in sub-
 7 section (b) to carry out eligible activities described in sub-
 8 section (c).

9 (b) **ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.**—

10 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—To be eligible to receive a
 11 grant under the grant program established under
 12 subsection (a) an entity shall be—

13 (A) an Indian Tribe;

14 (B) a relevant Tribal organization;

15 (C) subject to paragraph (2), a State, in
 16 consortium with—

17 (i) 1 or more Indian Tribes; and

18 (ii) relevant Tribal organizations, if
 19 any;

20 (D) a consortium of 2 or more Indian
 21 Tribes or relevant Tribal organizations; or

22 (E) subject to paragraph (2), a consortium
 23 of 2 or more States in consortium with—

24 (i) 1 or more Indian Tribes; and

25 (ii) relevant Tribal organizations, if
 26 any.

1 (2) STATE ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible under
 2 subparagraph (C) or (E) of paragraph (1), a State
 3 shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Attorney
 4 General that the State—

5 (A)(i) reports missing persons cases in the
 6 State to the national crime information data-
 7 bases; or

8 (ii) if not, has a plan to do so using a
 9 grant received under the grant program estab-
 10 lished under subsection (a); and

11 (B) if data sharing between the State and
 12 the Indian Tribes and relevant Tribal organiza-
 13 tions with which the State is in consortium is
 14 part of the intended use of the grant received
 15 under the grant program established under sub-
 16 section (a), has entered into a memorandum of
 17 understanding with each applicable Indian
 18 Tribe and relevant Tribal organization.

19 (c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity receiv-
 20 ing a grant under the grant program established under
 21 subsection (a) may use the grant—

22 (1) to establish a statewide or regional center—

23 (A) to document and track—

24 (i) missing persons cases of interest to
 25 Indian Tribes;

1 (ii) sexual assault cases of interest to
2 Indian Tribes; and

3 (iii) death investigations of interest to
4 Indian Tribes; and

5 (B) to input information regarding missing
6 persons cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-
7 claimed remains cases of interest to Indian
8 Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of inter-
9 est to Indian Tribes into the National Missing
10 and Unidentified Persons System;

11 (2) to establish a State or regional commission
12 to respond to, and to improve coordination between
13 Federal law enforcement agencies, and Tribal, State,
14 and local law enforcement agencies of the investiga-
15 tion of, missing persons cases of interest to Indian
16 Tribes, sexual assault cases of interest to Indian
17 Tribes, and death investigations of interest to Indian
18 Tribes; and

19 (3) to document, develop, and disseminate re-
20 sources for the coordination and improvement of the
21 investigation of missing persons cases of interest to
22 Indian Tribes, sexual assault cases of interest to In-
23 dian Tribes, and death investigations of interest to
24 Indian Tribes, including to develop local or statewide

1 rapid notification or communication systems for
2 alerts and other information relating to those cases.

3 (d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to carry out the grant pro-
5 gram established under subsection (a) \$1,000,000 for each
6 of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.

7 **SEC. 203. GAO STUDY ON FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**
8 **AGENCY EVIDENCE COLLECTION, HANDLING,**
9 **AND PROCESSING.**

10 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General of the
11 United States shall conduct a study—

12 (1) on the evidence collection, handling, and
13 processing procedures and practices of the Office of
14 Justice Services and the Federal Bureau of Inves-
15 tigation in exercising jurisdiction over crimes involv-
16 ing Indians or committed in Indian country;

17 (2) on any barriers to evidence collection, han-
18 dling, and processing by the agencies referred to in
19 paragraph (1);

20 (3) on the views of law enforcement officials at
21 the agencies referred to in paragraph (1) and their
22 counterparts within the Offices of the United States
23 Attorneys concerning any relationship between—

24 (A) the barriers identified under paragraph
25 (2); and

1 ~~(B)~~ United States Attorneys declination
2 rates due to insufficient evidence; and

3 ~~(4)~~ that includes a survey of barriers to evi-
4 dence collection, handling, and processing faced by—

5 ~~(A)~~ Tribal law enforcement agencies; and

6 ~~(B)~~ State and local law enforcement agen-
7 cies that exercise jurisdiction over Indian coun-
8 try.

9 ~~(b)~~ REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
10 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
11 of the United States shall submit to Congress a report
12 describing the results of the study conducted under sub-
13 section ~~(a)~~.

14 **SEC. 204. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND TRIBAL LAW**
15 **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER COUNSELING RE-**
16 **SOURCES INTERDEPARTMENTAL COORDINA-**
17 **TION.**

18 The Secretary of Health and Human Services and the
19 Attorney General shall coordinate with the Director—

20 ~~(1)~~ to ensure that Federal training materials
21 and culturally appropriate mental health and
22 wellness programs are locally or regionally available
23 to law enforcement officers working for the Bureau
24 of Indian Affairs or an Indian Tribe who are experi-
25 encing occupational stress; and

1 (2) to determine whether law enforcement agen-
 2 cies operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and
 3 Indian Tribes are eligible to receive services under—

4 (A) the Law Enforcement Assistance Pro-
 5 gram of Federal Occupational Health of the
 6 Department of Health and Human Services; or

7 (B) any other law enforcement assistance
 8 program targeted to meet the needs of law en-
 9 forcement officers working for law enforcement
 10 agencies operated by the Federal Government
 11 or an Indian Tribe.

12 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

13 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This Act may be cited as the*
 14 *“Bridging Agency Data Gaps and Ensuring Safety for Na-*
 15 *tive Communities Act” or the “BADGES for Native Com-*
 16 *munities Act”.*

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1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 *In this Act:*

3 (1) *DEATH INVESTIGATION.*—*The term “death*
4 *investigation” has the meaning determined by the At-*
5 *torney General.*

6 (2) *DEATH INVESTIGATION OF INTEREST TO IN-*
7 *DIAN TRIBES.*—*The term “death investigation of in-*
8 *terest to Indian Tribes” means a case involving—*

9 (A) *a death investigation into the death of*
10 *an Indian; or*

11 (B) *a death investigation of a person found*
12 *on, in, or adjacent to Indian land or a Village.*

13 (3) *DIRECTOR.*—*The term “Director” means the*
14 *Deputy Bureau Director of the Office of Justice Serv-*
15 *ices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.*

16 (4) *FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.*—*The*
17 *term “Federal law enforcement agency” means the Of-*
18 *fice of Justice Services of the Bureau of Indian Af-*
19 *fairs, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any*
20 *other Federal law enforcement agency that—*

21 (A) *has jurisdiction over crimes in Indian*
22 *country; or*

23 (B) *investigates missing persons cases of in-*
24 *terest to Indian Tribes, death investigations of*

1 *interest to Indian Tribes, unclaimed human re-*
2 *main cases of interest to Indian Tribes, or un-*
3 *identified remains cases of interest to Indian*
4 *Tribes.*

5 (5) *INDIAN.*—*The term “Indian” has the mean-*
6 *ing given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-De-*
7 *termination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.*
8 *5304).*

9 (6) *INDIAN COUNTRY.*—*The term “Indian coun-*
10 *try” has the meaning given the term in section 1151*
11 *of title 18, United States Code.*

12 (7) *INDIAN LAND.*—*The term “Indian land” has*
13 *the meaning given the term “Indian lands” in section*
14 *3 of the Native American Business Development,*
15 *Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000 (25*
16 *U.S.C. 4302).*

17 (8) *INDIAN TRIBE.*—*The term “Indian Tribe”*
18 *has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the In-*
19 *dian Self-Determination and Education Assistance*
20 *Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).*

21 (9) *MISSING PERSONS CASE OF INTEREST TO IN-*
22 *DIAN TRIBES.*—*The term “missing persons case of in-*
23 *terest to Indian Tribes” means a case involving—*

24 (A) *a missing Indian; or*

1 (B) a missing person whose last known lo-
 2 cation is believed to be on, in, or adjacent to In-
 3 dian land or a Village.

4 (10) NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION DATA-
 5 BASES.—The term “national crime information data-
 6 bases” has the meaning given the term in section
 7 534(f)(3) of title 28, United States Code.

8 (11) RELEVANT TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The
 9 term “relevant Tribal organization” means, as appli-
 10 cable—

11 (A) a Tribal organization or an urban In-
 12 dian organization; and

13 (B) a national or regional organization
 14 that—

15 (i) represents a substantial Indian con-
 16 stituency; and

17 (ii) has expertise in the fields of—

18 (I) human trafficking of Indians;

19 (II) human trafficking on Indian
 20 land or in a Village;

21 (III) violence against Indians;

22 (IV) missing or murdered Indige-
 23 nous persons; or

24 (V) Tribal justice systems.

1 (12) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
2 *the Secretary of the Interior.*

3 (13) *SEXUAL VIOLENCE CASE OF INTEREST TO*
4 *INDIAN TRIBES.*—*The term “sexual violence case of*
5 *interest to Indian Tribes” means a case involving an*
6 *allegation of sexual violence (as defined in section*
7 *204(a) of Public Law 90–284 (25 U.S.C. 1304(a)).*

8 (14) *TRIBAL JUSTICE OFFICIAL.*—*The term*
9 *“Tribal justice official” has the meaning given the*
10 *term “tribal justice official” in section 2 of the In-*
11 *dian Law Enforcement Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2801).*

12 (15) *TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.*—*The term “Tribal*
13 *organization” has the meaning given the term in sec-*
14 *tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-*
15 *cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).*

16 (16) *UNCLAIMED HUMAN REMAINS CASE OF IN-*
17 *TEREST TO INDIAN TRIBES.*—*The term “unclaimed*
18 *human remains case of interest to Indian Tribes”*
19 *means a case involving—*

20 (A) *unclaimed Indian remains identified by*
21 *Federal, Tribal, State, or local law enforcement;*

22 *or*

23 (B) *unclaimed human remains found on,*
24 *in, or adjacent to Indian land or a Village.*

1 (17) *UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS CASE OF INTEREST*
 2 *TO INDIAN TRIBES.*—*The term “unidentified remains*
 3 *case of interest to Indian Tribes” means a case in-*
 4 *volving—*

5 (A) *unidentified Indian remains; or*

6 (B) *unidentified remains found on, in, or*
 7 *adjacent to Indian land or a Village.*

8 (18) *URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATION.*—*The term*
 9 *“urban Indian organization” has the meaning given*
 10 *the term in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Im-*
 11 *provement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).*

12 (19) *VILLAGE.*—*The term “Village” means the*
 13 *Alaska Native Village Statistical Area covering all or*
 14 *any portion of a Native village (as defined in section*
 15 *3 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43*
 16 *U.S.C. 1602)), as depicted on the applicable Tribal*
 17 *Statistical Area Program Verification Map of the Bu-*
 18 *reau of the Census.*

19 ***TITLE I—BRIDGING AGENCY***
 20 ***DATA GAPS***

21 ***SEC. 101. NATIONAL MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS***

22 ***SYSTEM TRIBAL FACILITATOR.***

23 (a) *APPOINTMENT.*—*The Attorney General shall ap-*
 24 *point 1 or more Tribal facilitators for the National Missing*
 25 *and Unidentified Persons System.*

1 (b) *DUTIES.*—*The duties of a Tribal facilitator ap-*
2 *pointed under subsection (a) shall include—*

3 (1) *coordinating the reporting of information re-*
4 *lating to missing persons cases of interest to Indian*
5 *Tribes, unclaimed human remains cases of interest to*
6 *Indian Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of in-*
7 *terest to Indian Tribes;*

8 (2) *consulting and coordinating with Indian*
9 *Tribes and relevant Tribal organizations to address*
10 *the reporting, documentation, and tracking of missing*
11 *persons cases of interest to Indian Tribes, unclaimed*
12 *human remains cases of Interest to Indian Tribes,*
13 *and unidentified remains cases of interest to Indian*
14 *Tribes;*

15 (3) *developing working relationships, and main-*
16 *taining communication, with Indian Tribes and rel-*
17 *evant Tribal organizations;*

18 (4) *providing technical assistance and training*
19 *to Indian Tribes and relevant Tribal organizations,*
20 *victim service advocates, medical examiners, coroners,*
21 *and Tribal justice officials regarding—*

22 (A) *the gathering and reporting of informa-*
23 *tion to the National Missing and Unidentified*
24 *Persons System; and*

1 (B) *working with non-Tribal law enforce-*
2 *ment agencies to encourage missing persons cases*
3 *of interest to Indian Tribes, unclaimed human*
4 *remains cases of interest to Indian Tribes, and*
5 *unidentified remains cases of interest to Indian*
6 *Tribes are reported to the National Missing and*
7 *Unidentified Persons System;*

8 (5) *coordinating with the Office of Tribal Jus-*
9 *tice, the Office of Justice Services of the Bureau of In-*
10 *Indian Affairs, the Executive Office for United States*
11 *Attorneys, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, State*
12 *law enforcement agencies, and the National Indian*
13 *Country Training Initiative, as necessary; and*

14 (6) *conducting other training, information gath-*
15 *ering, and outreach activities to improve resolution of*
16 *missing persons cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-*
17 *claimed human remains cases of interest to Indian*
18 *Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of interest to*
19 *Indian Tribes.*

20 (c) *REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY.—*

21 (1) *ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—During*
22 *the 3-year-period beginning on the date of enactment*
23 *of this Act, the Attorney General, acting through the*
24 *Director of the National Institute of Justice, shall*
25 *submit to the Committees on Indian Affairs, the Judi-*

1 *ciary, and Appropriations of the Senate and the*
2 *Committees on Natural Resources, the Judiciary, and*
3 *Appropriations of the House of Representatives an*
4 *annual report describing the activities and accom-*
5 *plishments of the Tribal facilitators appointed under*
6 *subsection (a) during the 1-year period preceding the*
7 *date of the report.*

8 (2) *PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY.*—*Annually, the At-*
9 *torney General, acting through the Director of the Na-*
10 *tional Institute of Justice, shall publish on a website*
11 *publicly accessible information describing the activi-*
12 *ties and accomplishments of the Tribal facilitators*
13 *appointed under subsection (a) during the 1-year pe-*
14 *riod preceding the date of the publication.*

15 **SEC. 102. REPORT ON INDIAN COUNTRY LAW ENFORCE-**
16 **MENT PERSONNEL RESOURCES AND NEED.**

17 (a) *OFFICE OF JUSTICE SERVICES OF THE BUREAU*
18 *OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.*—*Section 3(c)(16) of the Indian Law*
19 *Enforcement Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2802(c)(16)) is amend-*
20 *ed by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the fol-*
21 *lowing:*

22 “(C) *a list of the unmet—*

23 “(i) *staffing needs of law enforcement,*
24 *corrections, and court personnel, including*
25 *criminal investigators, medical examiners,*

1 coroners, forensic technicians, indigent de-
 2 fense staff, crime victim services staff, and
 3 prosecution staff, at Tribal and Bureau jus-
 4 tice agencies, including the Missing and
 5 Murdered Unit of the Office of Justice Serv-
 6 ices of the Bureau;

7 “(ii) replacement and repair needs of
 8 Tribal and Bureau corrections facilities;

9 “(iii) infrastructure and capital needs
 10 for Tribal police and court facilities, in-
 11 cluding evidence storage and processing;
 12 and

13 “(iv) public safety and emergency com-
 14 munications and technology needs, includ-
 15 ing equipment and internet capacity needs;
 16 and”.

17 (b) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.—

18 (1) DEFINITION OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 19 LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—In this subsection, the
 20 term “Department of Justice law enforcement agency”
 21 means each of—

22 (A) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

23 (B) the Drug Enforcement Administration;

24 (C) the United States Marshals Service;

1 (D) *the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Fire-*
2 *arms and Explosives; and*

3 (E) *the Offices of the United States Attor-*
4 *neys.*

5 (2) *ANNUAL REPORT.—Each fiscal year, the At-*
6 *torney General shall submit to the Committees on In-*
7 *Indian Affairs, the Judiciary, and Appropriations of*
8 *the Senate and the Committees on Natural Resources,*
9 *the Judiciary, and Appropriations of the House of*
10 *Representatives a report for that fiscal year that in-*
11 *cludes—*

12 (A) *the number of full-time employees of*
13 *each Department of Justice law enforcement*
14 *agency that are assigned to work on criminal in-*
15 *vestigations and prosecutions in Indian country;*

16 (B) *the percentage of time the full-time em-*
17 *ployees, as identified under subparagraph (A),*
18 *spend specifically working in Indian country;*

19 (C) *the turnover rate during the 5-year pe-*
20 *riod preceding the report of full-time employees*
21 *assigned to work on criminal investigations and*
22 *prosecutions in Indian country;*

23 (D) *the average years of experience at the*
24 *Department of Justice of full-time employees as-*

1 *signed to work on criminal investigations and*
2 *prosecutions in Indian country;*

3 *(E) the number of vacant positions with re-*
4 *responsibilities for criminal investigations and*
5 *prosecutions in Indian country;*

6 *(F) an identification of expertise and skills*
7 *necessary to achieve the strategic goals of the De-*
8 *partment of Justice relating to public safety in*
9 *Indian country;*

10 *(G) an estimate of the number of employees*
11 *needed with specific skills and competencies to*
12 *fulfill responsibilities assigned for criminal in-*
13 *vestigations and prosecutions in Indian country;*
14 *and*

15 *(H) a list of measures identified to indicate*
16 *whether and how the Department of Justice*
17 *plans to execute its hiring, retention, and train-*
18 *ing strategies.*

19 (3) *GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—*

20 (A) *STUDY.—*

21 (i) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18*
22 *months after the date on which the first an-*
23 *ual report is submitted under paragraph*
24 *(2), the Comptroller General of the United*
25 *States shall conduct a review of unmet staff-*

1 *ing identified by the Department of Justice*
2 *law enforcement agencies tasked with work*
3 *on criminal investigations and prosecutions*
4 *in Indian country.*

5 *(ii) REQUIREMENT.—In conducting the*
6 *study required under clause (i), the Comp-*
7 *troller General of the United States shall*
8 *take into account the results of the most re-*
9 *cent report, as of the date of enactment of*
10 *this Act, relating to Indian country inves-*
11 *tigations and prosecutions prepared by the*
12 *Attorney General pursuant to section 10(b)*
13 *of the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act*
14 *(25 U.S.C. 2809(b)).*

15 *(B) REPORT.—On completion of the review*
16 *under subparagraph (A), the Comptroller Gen-*
17 *eral of the United States shall submit to the*
18 *Committees on Indian Affairs, the Judiciary,*
19 *and Appropriations of the Senate and the Com-*
20 *mittees on Natural Resources, the Judiciary, and*
21 *Appropriations of the House of Representatives a*
22 *report that describes the results of the study, in-*
23 *cluding, as appropriate, proposals for methods*
24 *by which the Department of Justice can better*
25 *measure its unmet staffing and other needs for*

1 *applicant for a law enforcement position in the*
2 *Bureau of Indian Affairs.*

3 (B) *AGREEMENTS.*—*The Secretary may*
4 *enter into a memorandum of agreement with a*
5 *State or local government, Indian Tribe, or Trib-*
6 *al organization to develop steps to expedite the*
7 *process of receiving and obtaining access to in-*
8 *formation pertinent to background investigation*
9 *and security clearance determinations for use in*
10 *the demonstration program.*

11 (3) *SUNSET.*—*The demonstration program estab-*
12 *lished under paragraph (1) shall terminate 5 years*
13 *after the date of the commencement of the demonstra-*
14 *tion program.*

15 (b) *SUFFICIENCY.*—*Notwithstanding any other provi-*
16 *sion of law, a background investigation conducted or adju-*
17 *dicated by the Secretary pursuant to the demonstration pro-*
18 *gram established under subsection (a)(1) that results in the*
19 *granting of a security clearance to an applicant for a law*
20 *enforcement position in the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall*
21 *be sufficient to meet the applicable requirements of the Of-*
22 *fice of Personnel Management or other Federal agency for*
23 *such investigations.*

24 (c) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 3 years after the date on*
25 *which the demonstration program is established under sub-*

1 *section (a)(1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees*
2 *on Indian Affairs, the Judiciary, and Appropriations of the*
3 *Senate and the Committees on Natural Resources, the Judi-*
4 *ciary, and Appropriations of the House of Representatives*
5 *a report on the demonstration program, which shall include*
6 *a description of—*

7 (1) *the demonstration program and any rec-*
8 *ommended changes or updates to the demonstration*
9 *program, including whether the demonstration pro-*
10 *gram should be reauthorized;*

11 (2) *the number of background investigations car-*
12 *ried out under the demonstration program;*

13 (3) *the costs, including any cost savings, associ-*
14 *ated with the investigation and adjudication process*
15 *under the demonstration program;*

16 (4) *the processing times for the investigation and*
17 *adjudication processes under the demonstration pro-*
18 *gram; and*

19 (5) *any other information that the Secretary de-*
20 *termines to be relevant.*

21 **SEC. 202. MISSING OR MURDERED RESPONSE COORDINA-**
22 **TION GRANT PROGRAM.**

23 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.—The At-*
24 *torney General shall establish within the Office of Justice*
25 *Programs a grant program under which the Attorney Gen-*

1 *eral shall make grants to eligible entities described in sub-*
 2 *section (b) to carry out eligible activities described in sub-*
 3 *section (c).*

4 *(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—*

5 *(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a*
 6 *grant under the grant program established under sub-*
 7 *section (a) an entity shall be—*

8 *(A) an Indian Tribe;*

9 *(B) a relevant Tribal organization;*

10 *(C) subject to paragraph (2), a State, in*
 11 *consortium with—*

12 *(i) 1 or more Indian Tribes; and*

13 *(ii) relevant Tribal organizations, if*
 14 *any;*

15 *(D) a consortium of 2 or more Indian*
 16 *Tribes or relevant Tribal organizations; or*

17 *(E) subject to paragraph (2), a consortium*
 18 *of 2 or more States in consortium with—*

19 *(i) 1 or more Indian Tribes; and*

20 *(ii) relevant Tribal organizations, if*
 21 *any.*

22 *(2) STATE ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible under*
 23 *subparagraph (C) or (E) of paragraph (1), a State*
 24 *shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Attorney*
 25 *General that the State—*

1 (A)(i) reports missing persons cases in the
2 State to the national crime information data-
3 bases; or

4 (ii) if not, has a plan to do so using a
5 grant received under the grant program estab-
6 lished under subsection (a); and

7 (B) if data sharing between the State and
8 the Indian Tribes and relevant Tribal organiza-
9 tions with which the State is in consortium is
10 part of the intended use of the grant received
11 under the grant program established under sub-
12 section (a), has entered into a memorandum of
13 understanding with each applicable Indian
14 Tribe and relevant Tribal organization.

15 (c) *ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.*—An eligible entity receiv-
16 ing a grant under the grant program established under sub-
17 section (a) may use the grant—

18 (1) to establish a statewide or regional center—

19 (A) to document and track—

20 (i) missing persons cases of interest to
21 Indian Tribes;

22 (ii) sexual violence cases of interest to
23 Indian Tribes; and

24 (iii) death investigations of interest to
25 Indian Tribes; and

1 (B) to input information regarding missing
2 persons cases of interest to Indian Tribes, un-
3 claimed human remains cases of interest to In-
4 dian Tribes, and unidentified remains cases of
5 interest to Indian Tribes into the National Miss-
6 ing and Unidentified Persons System and the
7 Missing Persons File in the National Crime In-
8 formation Center;

9 (2) to establish a State or regional commission
10 to respond to, and to improve coordination between
11 Federal law enforcement agencies, and Tribal, State,
12 and local law enforcement agencies of the investiga-
13 tion of, missing persons cases of interest to Indian
14 Tribes, sexual violence cases of interest to Indian
15 Tribes, and death investigations of interest to Indian
16 Tribes; and

17 (3) to document, develop, and disseminate re-
18 sources for the coordination and improvement of the
19 investigation of missing persons cases of interest to
20 Indian Tribes, sexual violence cases of interest to In-
21 dian Tribes, and death investigations of interest to
22 Indian Tribes, including to develop local or statewide
23 rapid notification or communication systems for
24 alerts and other information relating to those cases.

1 (d) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.*—*There is*
2 *authorized to be appropriated to carry out the grant pro-*
3 *gram established under subsection (a)(1) \$1,000,000 for*
4 *each of fiscal years 2025 through 2029.*

5 **SEC. 203. GAO STUDY ON FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**
6 **AGENCY EVIDENCE COLLECTION, HANDLING,**
7 **AND PROCESSING.**

8 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Comptroller General of the*
9 *United States shall conduct a study—*

10 (1) *on the evidence collection, handling, response*
11 *times, and processing procedures and practices of the*
12 *Office of Justice Services of the Bureau of Indian Af-*
13 *airs and the Federal Bureau of Investigation in exer-*
14 *cising jurisdiction over crimes involving Indians or*
15 *committed in Indian country;*

16 (2) *on barriers to evidence collection, handling,*
17 *response times, and processing identified by the agen-*
18 *cies referred to in paragraph (1);*

19 (3) *on the views of law enforcement officials at*
20 *the agencies referred to in paragraph (1) and their*
21 *counterparts within the Offices of the United States*
22 *Attorneys concerning any relationship between—*

23 (A) *the barriers identified under paragraph*
24 *(2); and*

1 (B) *United States Attorneys declination*
 2 *rates due to insufficient evidence; and*

3 (4) *that includes a description of barriers to evi-*
 4 *dence collection, handling, response times, and proc-*
 5 *essing identified and faced by—*

6 (A) *Tribal law enforcement agencies; and*

7 (B) *State and local law enforcement agen-*
 8 *cies that exercise jurisdiction over Indian coun-*
 9 *try.*

10 (b) *REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date*
 11 *of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the*
 12 *United States shall submit to the Committees on Indian*
 13 *Affairs, the Judiciary, and Appropriations of the Senate*
 14 *and the Committees on Natural Resources, the Judiciary,*
 15 *and Appropriations of the House of Representatives a re-*
 16 *port describing the results of the study conducted under sub-*
 17 *section (a).*

18 **SEC. 204. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND TRIBAL LAW EN-**
 19 **FORCEMENT OFFICER COUNSELING RE-**
 20 **SOURCES INTERDEPARTMENTAL COORDINA-**
 21 **TION.**

22 *The Secretary of Health and Human Services and the*
 23 *Attorney General shall coordinate with the Director—*

24 (1) *to ensure that Federal training materials*
 25 *and culturally appropriate mental health and*

1 *wellness programs are locally or regionally available*
2 *to law enforcement officers working for the Office of*
3 *Justice Services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs or an*
4 *Indian Tribe; and*

5 *(2) to determine whether law enforcement agen-*
6 *cies operated by the Office of Justice Services of the*
7 *Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Tribes are eligi-*
8 *ble to receive services under—*

9 *(A) the Law Enforcement Assistance Pro-*
10 *gram of Federal Occupational Health of the De-*
11 *partment of Health and Human Services; or*

12 *(B) any other law enforcement assistance*
13 *program targeted to meet the needs of law en-*
14 *forcement officers working for law enforcement*
15 *agencies operated by the Federal Government or*
16 *an Indian Tribe.*

Calendar No. 559

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 465

[Report No. 118-244]

A BILL

To require Federal law enforcement agencies to report on cases of missing or murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

NOVEMBER 18, 2024

Reported with an amendment