

REPORTING EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT ACT

SEPTEMBER 10, 2012.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. SMITH of Texas, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 6189]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 6189) to eliminate unnecessary reporting requirements for unfunded programs under the Office of Justice Programs, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

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Purpose and Summary

H.R. 6189, the “Reporting Efficiency Improvement Act,” (hereinafter “the Bill”) will eliminate statutory requirements for the Attorney General to make annual reports regarding two unfunded, dormant programs that previously were administered by the Office of Justice Programs in the Department of Justice.

Background and Need for the Legislation

The Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010 requires agencies to identify plans and reports that may be outdated or duplicative, and to “consult with the congressional committees that receive the plans and reports . . . to determine whether those plans and reports are no longer useful to the committees and could be eliminated. . . .”¹ The Department of Justice recommends eliminating both of the reports covered by the Bill.

The “DNA Identification Act of 1994” authorized appropriations for the Attorney General to make grants to states “to develop or improve the capability to analyze [DNA] in a forensic laboratory.”² The reporting requirements eliminated by the Bill require states receiving grants to report to the Attorney General how the funds are spent; the Attorney General, in turn, must make summary reports annually to Congress.³ These reporting requirements are no longer necessary because Congress has not made any appropriations for these grants since FY2003.

The “Police Corps Act” authorized appropriations to increase the number of police officers on community patrol, including through educational assistance.⁴ The reporting requirement eliminated by the Bill requires the Director of the Office of the Police Corps and Law Enforcement Education at the Department of Justice to file annual reports documenting the program’s status.⁵ This reporting requirement is no longer necessary because Congress has not made any appropriations for these grants since FY2005.

Hearings

The Committee on the Judiciary held no hearings on H.R. 6189.

Committee Consideration

On August 1, 2012, the Committee met in open session and ordered the bill H.R. 6189 favorably reported without amendment, by voice vote, a quorum being present.

Committee Votes

In compliance with clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee advises that there were no recorded votes during the Committee’s consideration of H.R. 6189.

Committee Oversight Findings

In compliance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee advises that the findings and recommendations of the Committee, based on oversight activities under clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, are incorporated in the descriptive portions of this report.

¹ 111 P.L. 352, § 11(b), *codified at* 31 U.S.C. § 1125(a)(3).

² 103 P.L. 322, § 210302(c), *codified at* 42 U.S.C. § 3796kk.

³ *See* 42 U.S.C. § 3796kk-5.

⁴ *See* 103 P.L. 322, Title XX, Subtitle A, *codified at* 42 U.S.C. § 14091.

⁵ *See* 42 U.S.C. § 14102.

New Budget Authority and Tax Expenditures

Clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives is inapplicable because this legislation does not provide new budgetary authority or increased tax expenditures.

Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate

In compliance with clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee sets forth, with respect to the bill, H.R. 6189, the following estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, August 28, 2012.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH, CHAIRMAN,
Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 6189, the "Reporting Efficiency Improvement Act."

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Mark Grabowicz, who can be reached at 226-2860.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF,
DIRECTOR.

Enclosure

cc: Honorable John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member

H.R. 6189—Reporting Efficiency Improvement Act.

As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary
on August 1, 2012.

H.R. 6189 would eliminate two annual reports that the Department of Justice (DOJ) is currently required to submit to the Congress. The reports are related to DOJ programs that have not been funded for many years, so the department has not prepared those reports recently. Thus, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 6189 would have no significant effect on DOJ spending. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 6189 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of State, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

Performance Goals and Objectives

The Committee states that pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, H.R. 6189 will eliminate reporting requirements for two unfunded, dormant programs that previously were administered by the Office of Justice Programs in the Department of Justice.

Advisory on Earmarks

In accordance with clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, H.R. 6189 does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of Rule XXI.

Section-by-Section Analysis

The following discussion describes the bill as reported by the Committee.

Sec. 1. Short Title. Establishes that the Act may be cited as the “Reporting Efficiency Improvement Act.”

Sec. 2. Elimination of Reports for Unfunded Programs Under the Office of Justice Programs. Section 2(a) eliminates the reporting requirements for grants made under the “DNA Identification Act of 1994,” at 42 U.S.C. § 3796kk-5(b). Section 2(b) eliminates the reporting requirement for grants made under the “Police Corps Act,” at 42 U.S.C. § 14102.

Changes in Existing Law Made by the Bill, as Reported

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND SAFE STREETS ACT OF 1968

* * * * *

TITLE I—JUSTICE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

* * * * *

PART X—DNA IDENTIFICATION GRANTS

* * * * *

SEC. 2406. REPORTS.

[(a) REPORTS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—] Each State or unit of local government which receives a grant under this part shall submit to the Attorney General, for each year in which funds from a grant received under this part is expended, a report at such time and in such manner as the Attorney General may reasonably require which contains—

(1) * * *

* * * * *

[(b) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year for which grants are made under this part, the Attorney General shall submit to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate, a report that includes—

[(1) the aggregate amount of grants made under this part to each State or unit of local government for such fiscal year; and

[(2) a summary of the information provided in compliance with subsection (a)(1).]

* * * * *

SECTION 200113 OF THE POLICE CORPS ACT

[SEC. 200113. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

[(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1 of each year, the Director shall submit a report to the Attorney General, the President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate.

[(b) CONTENTS.—A report under subsection (a) shall—

[(1) state the number of current and past participants in the Police Corps program, broken down according to the levels of educational study in which they are engaged and years of service they have served on police forces (including service following completion of the 4-year service obligation);

[(2) describe the geographic, racial, and gender dispersion of participants in the Police Corps program; and

[(3) describe the progress of the Police Corps program and make recommendations for changes in the program.]