

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5207

To authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve public safety,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 7, 2022

Ms. SMITH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve
public safety, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Innovation
5 in Public Safety Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INNOVATION IN SAFETY DEMONSTRATION**
7 **PROJECTS.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-

mittees” means the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means—

(A) a State government;

(B) a local government;

(C) a Tribal government; and

(D) a nonprofit organization.

(3) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—The term “law enforcement agency” means any government agency that has the principal functions of—

(A) the prevention, detection, and investigation of crime; and

(B) the apprehension of alleged criminal offenders.

(4) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term “nonprofit organization” means—

(A) an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such code; and

(B) an organization that is a nonprofit organization under the law of the State in which the organization is located.

1 (5) STATE.—The term “State” means any
2 State of the United States, the District of Columbia,
3 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United
4 States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the
5 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
6 and any possession of the United States.

7 (6) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “Tribal
8 government” means the government of an Indian
9 tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-De-
10 termination and Education Assistance Act (25
11 U.S.C. 5304)).

12 (b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall
14 award grants, on a competitive basis, to not less
15 than 100 eligible entities to perform a demonstration
16 project described in paragraph (2).

17 (2) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—An eligible
18 entity receiving a grant under paragraph (1) shall
19 perform a demonstration project that supports the
20 development and implementation of programs and
21 policies that improve public safety with innovative
22 strategies, including—

23 (A) improving mental health crisis re-
24 sponse;

1 (B) reassigning some functions of law en-
 2 forcement officers to unarmed public employees;

3 (C) creating programs designed to reduce
 4 the incidence of violence, harassment, and civil
 5 rights violations by law enforcement officers;

6 (D) reducing the financial and operational
 7 reliance of law enforcement agencies on the col-
 8 lection of fines, fees, and other charges; and

9 (E) identifying, and making publicly avail-
 10 able a report relating to, potential—

11 (i) reforms to State criminal statutes
 12 in order to—

13 (I) eliminate unnecessary fines,
 14 fees, and other charges; and

15 (II) eliminate or reduce manda-
 16 tory minimum sentences; and

17 (ii) reforms to State criminal statutes
 18 and local ordinances that—

19 (I) contribute to the criminaliza-
 20 tion of poverty; or

21 (II) are enforced in a racially dis-
 22 parate manner.

23 (3) DURATION.—A demonstration project per-
 24 formed under paragraph (2) shall be performed for
 25 a period of not less than 5 years.

1 (4) LIMITATION ON RECEIPT AND USE OF
2 FUNDS.—A law enforcement agency may not receive
3 or use any funds from a grant awarded under this
4 subsection.

5 (5) ADMINISTRATION.—An eligible entity that
6 receives a grant under this section may enter into an
7 agreement with a nonprofit organization to—

8 (A) administer the grant; or

9 (B) provide support to the eligible entity in
10 the administration of the grant.

11 (c) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT ALLOCATIONS.—In award-
12 ing grants under subsection (b), the Attorney General
13 shall allocate to eligible entities that are Tribal govern-
14 ments not less than 10 percent of the funds that are made
15 available to carry out that subsection.

16 (d) DATA COLLECTION.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall
18 collect the following data for the jurisdiction of an
19 eligible entity performing a demonstration project
20 with a grant under subsection (b) for each year dur-
21 ing which the eligible entity performs the demonstra-
22 tion project:

23 (A) Population characteristics, including
24 statistics on race, ethnicity, nationality, religion,
25 average and median income levels, and poverty.

1 (B) Average educational attainment.

2 (C) Employment rates.

3 (D) Housing market characteristics.

4 (E) Demographic characteristics of individ-
5 uals who are arrested, charged, and convicted of
6 crimes during the period of performance of the
7 demonstration project by the eligible entity.

8 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, and annually there-
10 after until the date on which each demonstration
11 project performed under subsection (b) is complete,
12 the Attorney General shall submit to the appropriate
13 congressional committees a report that includes—

14 (A) the total number of eligible entities
15 performing demonstration projects with a grant
16 under subsection (b);

17 (B) a description and status assessment of
18 each demonstration project described in sub-
19 paragraph (A); and

20 (C) the data collected under paragraph (1).

21 (e) EVALUATION.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
23 the date on which the Secretary awards the first
24 grant under subsection (b)(1), and annually there-
25 after until the date on which each demonstration

1 project performed under subsection (b) is complete,
 2 the Attorney General, in consultation with the heads
 3 of other appropriate agencies, shall submit to the
 4 appropriate congressional committees an evaluation
 5 relating to the demonstration project performed by
 6 each eligible entity receiving a grant under sub-
 7 section (b).

8 (2) CONTENTS.—The evaluation required under
 9 paragraph (1) shall include, for each eligible entity
 10 performing a demonstration project with a grant
 11 under subsection (b)—

12 (A) how the demonstration project—

13 (i) has saved costs for the eligible en-
 14 tity;

15 (ii) has contributed to a reduced inci-
 16 dence of use of force by law enforcement
 17 officers in the jurisdiction of the eligible
 18 entity;

19 (iii) has contributed to improved rela-
 20 tions between community members and law
 21 enforcement agencies and officers in the
 22 jurisdiction of the eligible entity; and

23 (iv) has met the performance goals of
 24 the eligible entity; and

1 (B) other appropriate analysis of the out-
2 come of the demonstration project.

3 (3) USE OF DATA.—In preparing the evaluation
4 required under paragraph (1), the Attorney General
5 shall use the data collected under subsection (d).

6 (4) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The evaluation re-
7 quired under paragraph (1) shall be publicly avail-
8 able.

9 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
10 are authorized to be appropriated—

11 (1) to carry out subsection (b) \$500,000,000;
12 and

13 (2) to carry out subsections (d) and (e)
14 \$100,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through
15 2027.

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