□ 1545

His passing affected his family profoundly and reverberated throughout the communities he touched. Michael was renowned for his kindness, generosity, and selflessness, often going above and beyond to help others in need.

He was a devoted family man, a cherished husband to Jill, and a loving father to their children, Annaliese, Olivia, Abbey, Seamus, Emma, his sons-in-law, and his grandchildren. Michael's untimely death underscores the importance of ensuring the safety of household products like awnings, and by passing this legislation today, we can prevent future tragedies.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), the Democratic sponsor of this bill and the ranking member of our Energy and Commerce's Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. PALLONE for yielding the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6132, the Awning Safety Act, which passed out of the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously. I thank Representative BALDERSON for working with me and leading this important consumer protection bill that will prompt the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a safety standard for fixed and freestanding motorized, retractable awnings.

Awnings are common for households across the country. The last thing a person should be worried about is a defective product, but in 2019, a motorized product was recalled after 14 incidents, including one fatal injury. The CPSC worked quickly with the manufacturer to recall the product and provide a remedy for consumers, but all consumers deserve protection.

It is important that the CPSC continues this work to save lives and keep families safe. That is why Representative BALDERSON and I are offering this bill to provide oversight and increased safety, empower the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and help prevent other families from suffering through tragic injuries and even deaths.

Consumers and their children deserve to enjoy the great outdoors without the fear of injury or death from products they presume to be safe. I thank the committee's chairwoman, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, for encouraging us in this effort, as well as Ranking Member Pallone and the entire committee.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote. Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill. Obviously, we have to prevent more tragedies like what occurred. I ask unanimous support for this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote. I thank my colleagues,

Representative CASTOR from the State of Florida, and, of course, Mr. BALDERSON from the great State of Ohio for sponsoring the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6132.

The question was taken; and (twothirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

TRANSPARENCY IN CHARGES FOR KEY EVENTS TICKETING ACT

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3950) to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3950

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Transparency In Charges for Key Events Ticketing Act" or the "TICKET Act".

SEC. 2. ALL INCLUSIVE TICKET PRICE DISCLOSURE.

Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, it shall be unlawful for a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange to offer for sale an event ticket unless the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange—

(1) clearly and conspicuously displays the total event ticket price, if a price is displayed, in any advertisement, marketing, or price list wherever the ticket is offered for sale;

(2) clearly and conspicuously discloses to any individual who seeks to purchase an event ticket the total event ticket price at the time the ticket is first displayed to the individual and anytime thereafter throughout the ticket purchasing process; and

(3) provides an itemized list of the base event ticket price and each event ticket fee prior to the completion of the ticket purchasing process.

SEC. 3. SPECULATIVE TICKETING BAN.

- (a) PROHIBITION.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange that does not have actual or constructive possession of an event ticket shall not sell, offer for sale, or advertise for sale such event ticket.
- (b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a secondary market ticket issuer or secondary market ticket exchange from offering a service to a consumer to obtain an event ticket on behalf of the consumer if the secondary market ticket issuer or secondary market ticket exchange complies with the following:
- (1) Does not market or list the service as an event ticket.
- (2) Maintains a clear, distinct, and easily discernible separation between the service and event tickets through unavoidable visual demarcation that persists throughout the entire service selection and purchasing process.

- (3) Clearly and conspicuously discloses before selection of the service that the service is not an event ticket and that the purchase of the service does not guarantee an event ticket.
- (4) In the event the service is unable to obtain the specified event ticket purchased through the service for the consumer, provides the consumer that purchased the service, within a reasonable amount of time—
- (A) a full refund for the total cost of the service to obtain an event ticket on behalf of the consumer; or
- (B) subject to availability, a replacement event ticket in the same or a comparable location with the approval of the consumer.
- (5) Does not obtain more tickets in each transaction than the numerical limitations for tickets set by the venue and artist for each respective event

SEC. 4. DECEPTIVE WEBSITES.

A ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange—

- (1) shall provide a clear and conspicuous statement, before a visitor purchases an event ticket from the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange that the issuer or exchange is engaged in the secondary sale of event tickets;
- (2) shall not state that the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange is affiliated with or endorsed by a venue, team, or artist, as applicable, unless a partnership agreement has been executed, including by (3) shall not use a domain name, or any subdomain thereof, in the URL of the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange that contains—

using words like "official" in promotional materials, social media promotions, search engine optimization, paid advertising, or search engine monetization unless the issuer or exchange has the express written consent of the venue, team, or artist, as applicable; and

(A) the name of a specific team, league, or venue where concerts, sports, or other live entertainment events are held, unless authorized by the owner of the name:

(B) the name of the exhibition or performance or of another event described in subparagraph (A), including the name of a person, team, performance, group, or entity scheduled to perform at any such venue or event, unless authorized by the owner of the name:

(C) any trademark or copyright not owned by the ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange, including any trademark or copyright owned by an authorized agent or partner of the venue or event identified in subparagraph (A) and (B); or

(D) any name substantially similar to those described in subparagraphs (A) and (B), including any misspelling of any such name.

$SEC.\ 5.\ REFUND\ REQUIREMENTS.$

- (a) CANCELLATION.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, if an event is canceled or postponed (except for a case in which an event is canceled or postponed due to a cause beyond the reasonable control of the ticket issuer, including a natural disaster, civil disturbance, or otherwise unforeseeable impediment), a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall provide the consumer, at the option of the purchaser, at a minimum—
- (1) a full refund for the total cost of the event ticket, any event ticket fee, and any tax; or
- (2) subject to availability, if the event is postponed, a replacement event ticket in the same or a comparable location once the event has been rescheduled, with the approval of the consumer.
- (b) DISCLOSURE OF GUARANTEE AND REFUND POLICY REQUIRED.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall disclose clearly and conspicuously before the completion

of an event ticket sale the guarantee or refund policy of such ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange, including under what circumstances any refund issued will include a refund of any event ticket fee and any tax.

(c) DISCLOSURE OF HOW TO OBTAIN A REFUND REQUIRED.—Beginning 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange shall provide a clear and conspicuous explanation of how to obtain a refund of the total cost of the ticket, any event ticket fee, and any tax.

SEC. 6. REPORT BY THE FEDERAL TRADE COM-MISSION ON BOTS ACT OF 2016 EN-FORCEMENT.

Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report on enforcement of the Better Online Ticket Sales Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–274; 15 U.S.C. 45c), including any enforcement action taken, challenges with enforcement and coordination with State Attorneys General, and recommendations on how to improve enforcement and industry compliance.

SEC. 7. ENFORCEMENT.

- (a) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACT OR PRACTICE.—A violation of this Act shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).
 - (b) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—
- (1) In GENERAL.—The Commission shall enforce this Act in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.
- (2) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person who violates this Act shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et sea.).
- (3) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

- (1) ARTIST.—The term "artist" means any performer, musician, comedian, producer, ensemble or production entity of a theatrical production, sports team owner, or similar person.
- (2) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Trade Commission.
- (3) DOMAIN NAME.—The term "domain name" means a globally unique, hierarchical reference to an Internet host or service, which is assigned through centralized Internet naming authorities, and which is comprised of a series of character strings separated by periods, with the right most string specifying the top of the hierarchy.
- (4) EVENT; EVENT TICKET; TICKET ISSUER.—The terms "event", "event ticket", and "ticket issuer" have the meaning given those terms in the Better Online Ticket Sales Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–274).
- (5) Event ticket fee:—The term "event ticket fee"—
- (A) means a charge for an event ticket that must be paid in addition to the base event ticket price in order to obtain an event ticket from a ticket issuer, secondary market ticket issuer, or secondary market ticket exchange including any service fee, charge and order processing fee, delivery fee, facility charge fee, and any other charge; and
- (B) does not include any charge or fee for an optional product or service associated with the event that may be selected by a purchaser of an event ticket.
- (6) OPTIONAL PRODUCT OR SERVICE.—The term "optional product or service" means a product

- or service that an individual does not need to purchase to use or take possession of an event ticket
- (7) RESALE; SECONDARY SALE.—The terms "resale" and "secondary sale" mean any sale of an event ticket that occurs after the initial sale of the event ticket by a ticket issuer.
- (8) SECONDARY MARKET TICKET EXCHANGE.— The term "secondary market ticket exchange" means any person that operates a platform or exchange for advertising, listing, or selling resale tickets, on behalf of itself, vendors, or a secondary market ticket issuer.
- (9) SECONDARY MARKET TICKET ISSUER.—The term "secondary market ticket issuer" means any person, including a ticket issuer, that resells or makes a secondary sale of an event ticket to the general public in the regular course of the trade or business of the person.
- (10) TOTAL EVENT TICKET PRICE.—The term "total event ticket price" means, with respect to an event ticket, the total cost of the event ticket, including the base event ticket price and any event ticket fee.
- (11) URL.—The term "URL" means the uniform resource locator associated with an internet website.
- (12) VENUE.—The term "venue" means a physical space at which an event takes place.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, I am honored to speak in support of my bipartisan bill, H.R. 3950, the Transparency In Charges for Key Events Ticketing Act, or the TICKET Act.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my bipartisan co-lead on this particular piece of legislation, the ranking member of the subcommittee, Ms. Jan Schakowsky, from the great State of Illinois. We have had true collaboration and partnership on this initiative, and I am grateful that we are able to move this bipartisan initiative forward. I thank the staff, too, on both sides. They did an incredible job on this particular piece of legislation, and it really is needed.

H.R. 3950 addresses price transparency in the live event ticketing marketplace, which has long been plagued by hidden and confusing fees tacked on at the end of the checkout process. It would require ticket issuers, including issuers on the secondary market, for live events to clearly and conspicuously disclose at the beginning of the transaction, and throughout the ticket purchasing process, the total ticket price for the event and an itemized list of the base ticket price and each fee associated with the total price. It is as simple as that. It is not a lot to ask for.

Further, this upfront pricing requirement includes the total ticket price in any advertisements or other marketing activities.

The TICKET Act also incorporates H.R. 6568, the Speculative Ticketing Oversight and Prohibition Act, or the STOP Act, led by Representatives ARM-STRONG and BLUNT ROCHESTER.

This additional language will hold bad actors accountable for ripping off and defrauding consumers through the sale of fake tickets that they do not possess, referred to as speculative tickets. It also prevents bad actors from using deceptive ticketing websites or fake URLs.

No fan should be caught left with nowhere to turn when they have been sold a fake ticket that they thought they had purchased from a website selling tickets only to find out that the website is a scam and the ticket does not exist at all.

This bill also provides fans with refunds if the event is canceled or postponed and requires the FTC to study the enforcement of the BOTS Act and hurdles that law enforcement may have when going after bad actors that use fake ticket purchasing bots, which are already illegal.

It is important that the House passes this particular legislation, and I hope the Senate will approve this without delay, as this bill will have an immediate impact on providing market transparency and enhancing the event ticketing experience for consumers.

As Americans look to attend summer outings, this will provide an enforcement mechanism for fake and deceptive websites claiming to be selling legitimate event tickets.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the stakeholders for working with us and for their input on this initiative, and I thank the staff, as well. I know that we have struck a key balance between both sides of the aisle to protect consumers and, ultimately, pass the most consequential ticketing reform in years.

We have to get it through the Senate, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to pass this particular piece of legislation on behalf of their constituents who may buy a birthday present for a child and think they have budgeted enough money for that, whether it is a baseball game, football game, or any type of a concert, what have you, and, lo and behold, they are surprised that they don't have the funds because of these overcharges or whatever you want to call them. Hidden fees is what they are.

Let's pass this bill and make sure that our families have the opportunity to take their children, their spouses, or their friends to these wonderful events that take place in our country.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 3950, the TICKET Act. I

want to start by applauding Chair BILI-RAKIS and Ranking Member SCHA-KOWSKY of the Innovation, Data, and Commerce Subcommittee for all of their hard work in producing a bipartisan ticketing bill with strong protections for consumers.

Mr. Speaker, I also commend my friend and colleague from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) for his tireless efforts and leadership to improve the ticketing experience for consumers. This is something that has been very important in our State of New Jersey.

For years, Representative PASCRELL has fought to ensure that those who want to enjoy their favorite sports team or see their favorite artists can do so without breaking the bank. Representative PASCRELL has been a staunch advocate to ensure fairness and transparency in the ticketing marketplace, and I am proud to have partnered with him in his efforts.

Those efforts are directly reflected in the bipartisan bill we have before us today. H.R. 3950, the TICKET Act, incorporates many of the proposals that Representative PASCRELL and I have called for over the last several years.

This bill mandates all-in pricing disclosure, bans speculative ticketing, requires refunds for cancellations or postponements, and prohibits deceptively named ticketing websites. That means consumers won't be hit with additional fees when they go to checkout. They will also know that the ticket they are purchasing is from a reputable website and in the seller's actual possession.

I am pleased we were able to come to a strong bipartisan consensus so that we can help consumers who just want to go to see their favorite artists perform.

While I believe there is still more that can be done to address anticonsumer practices in the ticketing space, this bill goes a long way in improving the ticket buying and event experience for all fans.

Madam Speaker, I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. Schakowsky).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation, H.R. 3950, the TICKET Act.

As my colleague and the chair of the subcommittee, Mr. BILIRAKIS, has said, we worked for months to finally get to this legislation being here today. I am so excited about it.

Madam Speaker, we have been hearing about this issue for a very long time, and I appreciate Congressman PASCRELL pushing it for as long as he did. Here we finally are. Totally bipartisan, this bill passed unanimously out of the Energy and Commerce Committee, but it took some work for us to

finally get here. I am very happy that we have.

The bill really has three separate parts.

One is that we make sure that the price consumers think they are going to pay when they first go online or see an advertisement is the price they will pay. Right now, many consumers have found they think they know the price when they go online, but when they finally finish and are at the end of the contract that they want to sign, they find that it could be 10, 20, 30, 40 percent more than they thought it was going to be.

That is a decision moment. Are they going to be able to go to that venue? Are they going to be able to go to that concert? Are they going to be able to go to that ballpark or to that game? Can they really afford it? Their children are begging to be able to go to that concert, yet it is far more than they thought it was going to be.

This legislation will finally put an end to those hidden prices. The price consumers see is the price that they will pay.

Number two, for refunds, how many times have people gotten tickets and then found out that the concert or the event has actually been canceled? Now, they will have to be compensated fully if that happens.

□ 1600

The third is the scammers. There are websites that are fake that are hooking in people to buy from them, and now under this legislation, the Federal Trade Commission will go strongly after them.

This is not necessarily one of these pieces of legislation that saves your life, as we have heard today from the Energy and Commerce Committee, but it is one of the great aggravations that lots of families face when they want to have that special day.

I am very happy not only for consumers but also for artists and also for the venues that are going to benefit from this legislation.

I certainly urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important legislation, and once again, I applaud the bipartisan effort of all the players who were involved in getting this passed.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, a fan shouldn't have to sell a kidney or mortgage a house to see their favorite performer or team. That is what it has come to. That is what it has come to.

Of course, I remain committed to the BOSS and SWIFT ACT. It just takes a little longer. Sometimes we are slow learners. I am catching up to you. This is the most comprehensive and consumer friendly ticket reform bill.

This is a big deal. This is a very big deal because the chairman and the ranking member have introduced a lot of bills that protect consumers today.

First of all, it is rare that it is bipartisan. Second of all, you are going to be really helping the consumer because that is who we serve. They pay our salaries. Everybody is a consumer. If you want to go to a concert, you want to send your family to a concert, you need a train load of money because people want to act like gangsters. They should go into the movies.

I want to thank Mr. Pallone who has been a tireless supporter of consumers in our quest to fix the ticket market for years. Of course, our solution is a little different. The ultimate solution is to break up Ticketmaster. They should have never been allowed under a Democratic administration to join together. I am a Democrat, and I am saying that to you, Madam Speaker.

Six years ago, Mr. PALLONE and I called on the Federal Trade Commission to do more to protect consumers. In response, the FTC organized a workshop on live-event tickets to review the many challenges faced by ticket-buying fans. It is a menagerie. It was at that workshop that every single ticket seller agreed to the concept of an all-in ticket pricing law.

All-in ticket pricing is a policy I have been fighting for since 2009, and it will make a real difference, I believe, in people's lives. This change will take some of the mystery and the frustration out of concert on-sales, and it will also allow Americans to make real price comparisons. That is big.

What we are doing is setting up a system, and have set up and have allowed to be set up a system wherein only those affluent enough to afford those concerts—I mean, music, plays, ball games, they are for everybody. They should be accessible.

Today's measure includes other items we have been seeking for years.

Speculative tickets posted by sellers have led to countless horror stories for fans across America. In fact, I first understood this problem best when I started to get letters from Canada about this situation in 2008 and 2009.

The committee added two items from the BOSS and SWIFT ACT helping consumers get their refunds and ensuring fans are not duped by shady websites—and there are enough of them. They are out there. You can't believe it when you read it. People don't know what they are paying for the tickets when they finally get charged. They don't know what the fees are. The ticket market is like the Wild West—mammoth, opaque, speculative, and brutally unfair.

They are all in on it. Whether you are talking about the stars, whether you are talking about the actual sellers, they want to control everything. They want to control the venues, the beer and the peanuts—you name it, the whole situation. That is why Ticketmaster controls at least 80 percent of the market—80 percent. If that is not a monopoly, what is? I will listen. I will listen.

While we need to do much more, today's bill starts to lay down the law to achieve real change for Americans. We are doing it Jersey style. They will catch up with us.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I will close by just saying this is a piece of legislation that many of us have been working on for some time, so we are pleased to see that it is finally seeing the light of day. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I am just proud that I played a small role in passing this legislation. Obviously, I am the sponsor, but we had Mr. PASCRELL from New Jersey and every time I went around to the Democratic side to talk about particular bills, he would grab me and talk to me about the BOSS and SWIFT ACT. Mr. PASCRELL actually made a good bill better, and we appreciate him so very much.

Again, without Chair RODGERS, Ranking Member PALLONE, and the ranking member of the subcommittee, my partner, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, this never would have gotten done.

Our constituents will benefit from this. You know what, this is a great example of how Congress should intervene.

Again, we passed it out of the House. We have got to lobby the Senate to get this done as soon as possible.

I want to thank the staff. We couldn't do it without the staff, that is for sure, on both sides of the aisle working out the details. Energy and Commerce is famous for working together and protecting our consumers.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of this particular bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. Tenney). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3950, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and navs.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECRUIT AND RETAIN ACT

Mr. HUNT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 546) to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize law enforcement agencies to use COPS grants for recruitment activities, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 546

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Recruit and Retain Act".

SEC. 2. IMPROVING COPS GRANTS FOR POLICE HIRING PURPOSES.

- (a) Grant Use Expansion.—Section 1701(b) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381(b)) is amended—
- (1) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (23) as paragraphs (6) through (24), respectively; and
- (2) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:
- "(5) to support hiring activities by law enforcement agencies experiencing declines in officer recruitment applications by reducing application-related fees, such as fees for background checks, psychological evaluations, and testing;".
- (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—Section 1701(b)(23) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381(b)(23)) is amended by striking "(21)" and inserting "(22)".

SEC. 3. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

Section 1701 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381) is amended—

- (1) by redesignating subsections (i) through (n) as subsections (j) through (o), respectively; and
- (2) by inserting after subsection (h) the following:
- "(i) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 2 percent of a grant made for the hiring or rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers may be used for costs incurred to administer such grant."

SEC. 4. PIPELINE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

Section 1701 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381) is amended by inserting after subsection (o) the following:

- "(p) COPS PIPELINE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.—
- "(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'eligible entity' means a law enforcement agency in partnership with not less than 1 educational institution, which may include 1 or any combination of the following:
 - ``(A) An elementary school.
 - "(B) A secondary school.
 - "(C) An institution of higher education.
 - "(D) A Hispanic-serving institution.
- "(E) A historically Black college or university.
 - "(F) A Tribal college.
- "(2) Grants.—The Attorney General shall award competitive grants to eligible entities for recruiting activities that—
- "(A) support substantial student engagement for the exploration of potential future career opportunities in law enforcement;
- "(B) strengthen recruitment by law enforcement agencies experiencing a decline in recruits, or high rates of resignations or retirements:
- "(C) enhance community interactions between local youth and law enforcement agencies that are designed to increase recruiting;
- "(D) otherwise improve the outcomes of local law enforcement recruitment through activities such as dedicated programming for students, work-based learning opportunities, project-based learning, mentoring, community liaisons, career or job fairs, work site visits, job shadowing, apprenticeships, or skills-based internships.
- "(3) FUNDING.—Of the amounts made available to carry out this part for a fiscal year, the Attorney General may use not more than \$3,000,000 to carry out this subsection.".

SEC. 5. COPS GRANT GUIDANCE FOR AGENCIES OPERATING BELOW BUDGETED STRENGTH.

Section 1704 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10384) is amended by adding at the end the following:

- "(d) GUIDANCE FOR UNDERSTAFFED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.—
 - "(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:
- "(A) COVERED APPLICANT.—The term 'covered applicant' means an applicant for a hiring grant under this part seeking funding for a law enforcement agency operating below the budgeted strength of the law enforcement agency.
- "(B) BUDGETED STRENGTH.—The term 'budgeted strength' means the employment of the maximum number of sworn law enforcement officers the budget of a law enforcement agency allows the agency to employ
- "(2) PROCEDURES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall establish consistent procedures for covered applicants, including guidance that—
- "(A) clarifies that covered applicants remain eligible for funding under this part; and
- "(B) enables covered applicants to attest that the funding from a grant awarded under this part is not being used by the law enforcement agency to supplant State or local funds, as described in subsection (a).
- "(3) PAPERWORK REDUCTION.—In developing the procedures and guidance under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall take measures to reduce paperwork requirements for grants to covered applicants."

SEC. 6. STUDY ON POLICE RECRUITMENT.

- (a) STUDY.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study to consider the comprehensive effects of recruitment and attrition rates on Federal, State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the United States, to identify—
- (A) the primary reasons that law enforcement officers—
- (i) join law enforcement agencies; and
- (ii) resign or retire from law enforcement agencies:
- (B) how the reasons described in subparagraph (A) may have changed over time;
- (C) the effects of recruitment and attrition on public safety;
- (D) the effects of electronic media on recruitment efforts;
- (E) barriers to the recruitment and retention of Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers; and
- (F) recommendations for potential ways to address barriers to the recruitment and retention of law enforcement officers, including the barriers identified in subparagraph (E).
 - (2) Representative cross-section.—
- (A) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall endeavor to ensure accurate representation of law enforcement agencies in the study conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) by surveying a broad cross-section of law enforcement agencies—
- (i) from various regions of the United States;
- (ii) of different sizes; and
- (iii) from rural, suburban, and urban jurisdictions.
- (B) METHODS DESCRIPTION.—The study conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include in the report under subsection (b) a description of the methods used to identify a representative sample of law enforcement agencies.
- (b) REPORT.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—