

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4034

To amend the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 to authorize grants for the expansion of recreation opportunities for at risk youth in urban areas with a high prevalence of crime, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 1994

Mr. MILLER of California (for himself, Mr. VENTO, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. DE LUGO, Mr. LEHMAN, Mr. FALCOMA, Ms. SHEPHERD, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 to authorize grants for the expansion of recreation opportunities for at risk youth in urban areas with a high prevalence of crime, 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 “Urban Recreation and
5 At-Risk Youth Act of 1994”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Section 1002 of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
3 covery Act of 1978 is amended by striking “and” at the
4 end of subsection (d), by striking the period at the end
5 of subsection (e) and inserting “; and” and by adding the
6 following at the end thereof:

7 “(f) the quality of life in urban areas has suffered
8 because of decline in the availability of park and recreation
9 and systems, including land, facilities, and services;

10 “(g) the deterioration of urban park and recreation
11 facilities is due in part to underfunding of Federal grant
12 programs which assist in the revitalization of urban recre-
13 ation facilities;

14 “(h) the urban neighborhoods eligible for assistance
15 under this title have deteriorated, in part, due to the rapid
16 increase in violent crime among youth;

17 “(i) accessible, well-maintained recreational facilities
18 and services have been shown to significantly decrease the
19 incidence of violent crime among youth and can be an ef-
20 fective tool in efforts to prevent crime, increase public
21 safety and improve the quality of life of urban residents;
22 and

23 “(j) urban sport and recreation programs teach im-
24 portant values and life skills including teamwork, individ-
25 ual responsibility, respect, leadership, and self-esteem

1 which help prevent young people from engaging in crimi-
2 nal behavior.”.

3 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE OF ASSISTANCE.**

4 Section 1003 of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
5 covery Act of 1978 is amended by adding the following
6 at the end thereof: “It is further the purpose of this title
7 to improve recreation facilities and expand recreation serv-
8 ices in urban areas with a high incidence of crime and
9 to help deter crime through the expansion of recreation
10 opportunities for at-risk youth. It is the further purpose
11 of this section to increase the security of urban parks and
12 to promote collaboration between local agencies involved
13 in parks and recreation, law enforcement, youth social
14 services, and the juvenile justice system.”.

15 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

16 Section 1004 of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
17 covery Act of 1978 is amended by inserting the following
18 new subsection after subsection (c) and by redesignating
19 subsections (d) through (j) as (e) through (k) respectively:

20 “(d) ‘at-risk youth recreation grants’ means—

21 “(1) rehabilitation grants,

22 “(2) innovation grants, or

23 “(3) matching grants for continuing program
24 support for programs of demonstrated value or suc-
25 cess in providing constructive alternatives to youth

1 at risk for engaging in criminal behavior, including
2 grants for operating, or coordinating recreation pro-
3 grams and services;
4 in neighborhoods and communities with a high prevalence
5 of crime, particularly violent crime or crime committed by
6 youthful offenders; in addition to the purposes specified
7 in subsection (b), rehabilitation grants referred to in para-
8 graph (1) of this subsection may be used for the provision
9 of lighting, emergency phones or other capital improve-
10 ments which will improve the security of urban parks;”.

11 **SEC. 5. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION.**

12 Section 1005 of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
13 covery Act of 1978 is amended by striking “and” at the
14 end of paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end
15 of paragraph (7) and inserting “; and” and by adding the
16 following at the end thereof:

17 “(8) in the case of at risk youth recreation
18 grants, the Secretary shall give a priority to each of
19 the following criteria:

20 “(A) Programs which are targeted to
21 youth who are at the greatest risk of becoming
22 involved in violence and crime.

23 “(B) Programs which teach important val-
24 ues and life skills, including teamwork, respect,
25 leadership, and self-esteem.

1 “(C) Programs which offer tutoring, reme-
2 dial education, mentoring, and counseling in ad-
3 dition to recreation opportunities.

4 “(D) Programs which offer services during
5 late night or other nonschool hours.

6 “(E) Programs which demonstrate collabo-
7 ration between local park and recreation, juve-
8 nile justice, law enforcement, and youth social
9 service agencies and nongovernmental entities,
10 including the private sector and community and
11 nonprofit organizations.

12 “(F) Programs which leverage public or
13 private recreation investments in the form of
14 services, materials, or cash.

15 “(G) Programs which show the greatest
16 potential of being continued with non-Federal
17 funds or which can serve as models for other
18 communities.”.

19 **SEC. 6. PARK AND RECREATION ACTION RECOVERY PRO-**
20 **GRAMS.**

21 Section 1007(b) of the Urban Park and Recreation
22 Recovery Act of 1978 is amended by adding the following
23 at the end thereof: “In order to be eligible to receive ‘at
24 risk youth recreation grants’ a local government shall
25 amend its 5-year action program to incorporate the goal

1 of reducing crime and juvenile delinquency and to provide
2 a description of the implementation strategies to achieve
3 this goal. The plan shall also address how the local govern-
4 ment is coordinating its recreation programs with crime
5 prevention efforts of law enforcement, juvenile corrections,
6 and youth social service agencies.”.

7 **SEC. 7. MISCELLANEOUS AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

8 (a) PROGRAM SUPPORT.—Section 1013 of the Urban
9 Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 is amended
10 by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” after “1013” and by
11 adding the following new subsection at the end thereof:

12 “(b) PROGRAM SUPPORT.—Not more than 25 per-
13 cent of the amounts made available under this title to any
14 local government may be used for program support.”.

15 (b) EXTENSION.—Section 1003 of the Urban Park
16 and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 is amended by strik-
17 ing “for a period of five years” and by striking “short-
18 term”.

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