

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2665

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants and contracts to establish domestic violence community response teams and a technical assistance center to address the development and support of such community response teams, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 1995

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania (for himself, Ms. MOLINARI, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Mr. ZIMMER, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. HEINEMAN, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. DAVIS, Mr. McHALE, Mr. KLINK, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. LONGLEY, Mr. MARTINI, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KING, Mr. UPTON, Mr. FOLEY, and Mrs. ROUKEMA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants and contracts to establish domestic violence community response teams and a technical assistance center to address the development and support of such community response teams, 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 “Domestic Violence
5 Community Response Team Act of 1995”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purposes of this Act are to—

3 (1) establish and strengthen the partnership be-
4 tween law enforcement and community groups in
5 order to assist victims of domestic violence;

6 (2) provide early intervention and followup serv-
7 ices in order to prevent future incidents of domestic
8 violence; and

9 (3) establish a central technical assistance cen-
10 ter for the collection and provision of programmatic
11 information and technical assistance.

12 **SEC. 3. GRANTS AUTHORIZED FOR COMMUNITY RESPONSE**

13 **TEAMS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
15 Human Services (referred to in this Act as the “Sec-
16 retary”), is authorized to award grants to encourage eligi-
17 ble entities to serve as community response teams to assist
18 in the prevention of domestic violence. Grants awarded
19 under this section shall be awarded in a manner that en-
20 sures geographic and demographic diversity.

21 (b) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall not
22 award a grant under this section in an amount that ex-
23 ceeds \$500,000.

24 (c) DURATION.—The Secretary shall award grants
25 under this section for periods of not to exceed 3 years.

26 (d) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section,
2 the term “eligible entity” means a nonprofit, com-
3 munity-based organization whose primary purpose
4 involves domestic violence prevention, and who has
5 demonstrated expertise in providing services to vic-
6 tims of domestic violence and collaborating with
7 service providers and support agencies in the com-
8 munity.

9 (2) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In order to
10 be considered an eligible entity for purposes of this
11 section, an entity shall—

12 (A) have an understanding of the racial,
13 ethnic, and lingual diversity of the community
14 in which such entity serves as a community re-
15 sponse team;

16 (B) be able to respond adequately to such
17 community; and

18 (C) to the extent practicable, include per-
19 sonnel that reflect the racial, ethnic, and lingual
20 diversity of such community.

21 (3) PREFERENCE IN MAKING GRANTS.—In
22 making grants under subsection (a) for a fiscal year,
23 the Secretary shall give preference to qualified eligi-
24 ble entities who for such year are not receiving any

1 other Federal grant for carrying out activities to
2 prevent domestic violence.

3 (e) ROLE OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAMS.—Com-
4 munity response teams established pursuant to this sec-
5 tion shall—

6 (1) provide community advocates to work (in
7 conjunction with local police) with victims, imme-
8 diately after incidents of domestic violence;

9 (2) educate victims of domestic violence about
10 the legal process with respect to restraining orders
11 and civil and criminal charges;

12 (3) discuss with such victims immediate safety
13 arrangements and child care needs, and educate vic-
14 tims about resources provided by local agencies;

15 (4) provide for followup services and counseling
16 with local support agencies;

17 (5) educate victims regarding abuse tactics, in-
18 cluding increased incidence of violence that occurs
19 after repeated episodes of violence; and

20 (6) act in partnership with local law enforce-
21 ment agencies to carry out the purposes of this Act.

22 (f) APPLICATIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Applications for grants
24 under this section shall be submitted to the Sec-
25 retary at such time, in such manner, and accom-

1 panied by such information as the Secretary may
2 reasonably require.

3 (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted
4 pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

5 (A) include a complete description of the
6 eligible entity’s plan for operating a community-
7 based partnership between law enforcement of-
8 ficials and community organizations;

9 (B) demonstrate effective community lead-
10 ership, commitment to community action, and
11 commitment to working with affected popu-
12 lations;

13 (C) provide for periodic project evaluation
14 through written reports and analysis in order to
15 assist in applying successful programs to other
16 communities; and

17 (D) demonstrate an understanding of the
18 population to be served, including an under-
19 standing of the racial, ethnic, and socio-
20 economic characteristics that influence the roles
21 of women and affect treatment.

22 (g) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amount
23 made available under section 5 for a grant under this sec-
24 tion for a community response team, not more than 5 per-

1 cent of such amount may be expended to cover the admin-
2 istrative expenses of the community response team.

3 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
5 award a contract to an eligible entity to serve as a tech-
6 nical assistance center under this Act. The technical as-
7 sistance center shall—

8 (1) serve as a national information, training,
9 and material development source for the develop-
10 ment and support of community response teams na-
11 tionwide; and

12 (2) provide technical support and input to com-
13 munity programs, including assisting local groups in
14 the establishment of programs and providing train-
15 ing to community volunteer staff persons.

16 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For purposes of this section,
17 the term “eligible entity” means a nonprofit organization
18 with a primary focus on domestic violence prevention and
19 demonstrated expertise in providing technical assistance,
20 information, training, and resource development on some
21 aspect of domestic violence service provision or prevention.
22 An eligible entity shall be selected by the Secretary under
23 this section based on competence, experience, and a proven
24 ability to conduct national-level organization and program
25 development. In order to be considered an eligible entity

1 for purposes of this section, an entity shall provide the
2 Secretary with evidence of support from community-based
3 domestic violence organizations for the designation of the
4 entity as the technical assistance center.

5 (c) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Of the amount
6 made available under section 5 for a contract under this
7 section for a technical assistance center, not more than
8 5 percent of such amount may be expended to cover the
9 administrative expenses of the technical assistance center.

10 **SEC. 5. FUNDING.**

11 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
12 purpose of carrying out this Act, there is authorized to
13 be appropriated \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
14 1996 through 1998.

15 (b) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts appropriated
16 under subsection (a) for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall
17 make available \$300,000 for a contract under section 4.

18 (c) SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR PROGRAM.—

19 (1) OFFSETTING REDUCTION IN FUNDING FOR
20 ENERGY INFORMATION AGENCY.—With respect to
21 the authorizations of appropriations that have been
22 established for the programs and activities of the
23 Energy Information Administration, the total
24 amount of such authorizations is, for each of the fis-
25 cal years specified in subsection (a), reduced by

1 \$5,000,000. The preceding sentence applies notwith-
2 standing any other provision of law.

3 (2) REPORT REGARDING OTHER SOURCES OF
4 FUNDS FOR ENERGY INFORMATION AGENCY.—Not
5 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment
6 of this Act, the Secretary of Energy shall submit to
7 the Congress a report providing a determination by
8 the Secretary of whether it would be practicable for
9 the Energy Information Administration to provide
10 for some or all of the funding for the Administration
11 through imposing a charge for some or all of the
12 services or materials that the Administration pro-
13 vides to the public.

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