

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4033

AN ACT

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify the procedures and conditions for the award of matching grants for the purchase of armor vests.

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To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify the procedures and conditions for the award of matching grants for the purchase of armor vests.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Bulletproof Vest Part-
3 nership Grant Act of 2000”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds that—

6 (1) the number of law enforcement officers who
7 are killed in the line of duty would significantly de-
8 crease if every law enforcement officer in the United
9 States had the protection of an armor vest;

10 (2) according to studies, between 1985 and
11 1994, 709 law enforcement officers in the United
12 States were feloniously killed in the line of duty;

13 (3) the Federal Bureau of Investigation esti-
14 mates that the risk of fatality to law enforcement of-
15 ficers while not wearing an armor vest is 14 times
16 higher than for officers wearing an armor vest;

17 (4) according to studies, between 1985 and
18 1994, bullet-resistant materials helped save the lives
19 of more than 2,000 law enforcement officers in the
20 United States; and

21 (5) the Executive Committee for Indian Coun-
22 try Law Enforcement Improvements reports that
23 violent crime in Indian country has risen sharply,
24 despite a decrease in the national crime rate, and
25 has concluded that there is a “public safety crisis in
26 Indian country”.

1 **SEC. 3. MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR LAW ENFORCE-**
2 **MENT ARMOR VESTS.**

3 (a) MATCHING FUNDS.—Section 2501(f) (42 U.S.C.
4 3796ll(f)) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets
5 Act of 1968 is amended—

6 (1) by striking “The portion” and inserting the
7 following:

8 “(1) The portion”;

9 (2) by striking “subsection (a)” and all that fol-
10 lows through the period at the end of the first sen-
11 tence and inserting “subsection (a)—

12 “(A) may not exceed 50 percent; and

13 “(B) shall equal 50 percent, if—

14 “(i) such grant is to a unit of local
15 government with fewer than 100,000 resi-
16 dents;

17 “(ii) the Director of the Bureau of
18 Justice Assistance determines that the
19 quantity of vests to be purchased with such
20 grant is reasonable; and

21 “(iii) such portion does not cause such
22 grant to violate the requirements of sub-
23 section (e).”; and

24 (3) by striking “Any funds” and inserting the
25 following:

26 “(2) Any funds”.

1 (b) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Section 2501(g) (42
2 U.S.C. 3796ll(g)) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
3 Streets Act of 1968 is amended to read as follows:

4 “(g) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Funds available
5 under this part shall be awarded, without regard to sub-
6 section (c), to each qualifying unit of local government
7 with fewer than 100,000 residents. Any remaining funds
8 available under this part shall be awarded to other quali-
9 fying applicants.”.

10 (c) APPLICATIONS.—Section 2502 (42 U.S.C.
11 3796ll–1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets
12 Act of 1968 is amended by inserting after subsection (c)
13 the following new subsection:

14 “(d) APPLICATIONS IN CONJUNCTION WITH PUR-
15 CHASES.—If an application under this section is submitted
16 in conjunction with a transaction for the purchase of
17 armor vests, grant amounts under this section may not
18 be used to fund any portion of that purchase unless, before
19 the application is submitted, the applicant—

20 “(1) receives clear and conspicuous notice that
21 receipt of the grant amounts requested in the appli-
22 cation is uncertain; and

23 “(2) expressly assumes the obligation to carry
24 out the transaction regardless of whether such
25 amounts are received.”.

1 (d) DEFINITION OF ARMOR VEST.—Paragraph (1) of
2 section 2503 (42 U.S.C. 3796ll–2) of such Act is
3 amended—

4 (1) by striking “means body armor” and insert-
5 ing the following: “means—

6 “(A) body armor”; and

7 (2) by inserting after the semicolon at the end
8 the following: “or

9 “(B) body armor which has been tested
10 through such voluntary compliance testing pro-
11 gram, and found to meet or exceed the require-
12 ments of NIJ Standard 0115.00, or any subse-
13 quent revision of such standard;”.

14 (e) INTERIM DEFINITION OF ARMOR VEST.—For
15 purposes of part Y of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control
16 and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended by this Act,
17 the meaning of the term “armor vest” (as defined in sec-
18 tion 2503 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 37966ll–2)) shall, until
19 the date on which a final NIJ Standard 0115.00 is first
20 fully approved and implemented, also include body armor
21 which has been found to meet or exceed the requirements
22 for protection against stabbing established by the State
23 in which the grantee is located.

24 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
25 1001(a)(23) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe

1 Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(23)) is amended
2 by striking the period at the end and inserting the fol-
3 lowing: “, and \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002
4 through 2004.”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 26, 2000.

Attest:

Clerk.