

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2413

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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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 12, 2000

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. ROBB, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, and Mr. REID) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

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

5           (2) according to studies, between 1985 and  
6 1994, 709 law enforcement officers in the United  
7 States were killed in the line of duty;

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

12           (4) according to studies, between 1985 and  
13 1994, bullet-resistant materials helped save the lives  
14 of more than 2,000 law enforcement officers in the  
15 United States; and

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

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

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

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

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—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) INDIAN ASSISTANCE.—Any funds”.

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

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

11          (c) APPLICATIONS.—Section 2502 of part Y of title  
12 I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of  
13 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796ll–1) is amended by adding at the  
14 end the following:

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

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

1           “(2) expressly assumes the obligation to carry  
2           out the transaction, regardless of whether such  
3           amounts are received.”.

4           (d) DEFINITION OF ARMOR VEST.—Section 2503(1)  
5 of part Y of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and  
6 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796ll–2(1)) is  
7 amended—

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

10                       “(A) body armor”;

11           (2) by adding “or” at the end; and

12           (3) by adding at the end the following:

13                       “(B) body armor that has been tested  
14                       through the voluntary compliance testing pro-  
15                       gram, and found to meet or exceed the require-  
16                       ments of NIJ Standard 0115.00, or any revi-  
17                       sion of such standard;”.

18           (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
19 1001(a)(23) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and  
20 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(23)) is  
21 amended by inserting before the period at the end the fol-  
22 lowing: “, and \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002  
23 through 2004”.

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