

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1348

To provide funds to the National Center for Rural Law Enforcement, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2001

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself and Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon) introduced the
following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide funds to the National Center for Rural Law
Enforcement, 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 “Rural Law Enforce-
5 ment Assistance Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **BOARD.**—The term “Board” means the
9 members of the Board of the Center elected in ac-
10 cordance with the bylaws of the Center.

1 (2) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the
2 National Center for Rural Law Enforcement, a non-
3 profit corporation located in Little Rock, Arkansas.

4 (3) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The term “Execu-
5 tive Director” means the Executive Director of the
6 Center as appointed in accordance with the bylaws
7 of the Center.

8 (4) INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—
9 The term “institutions of higher education” has the
10 meaning given the term in section 1201(a) of the
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1141(a)).

12 (5) METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA.—The
13 term “metropolitan statistical area” has the same
14 meaning given the term by the Bureau of the Cen-
15 sus of the Department of Commerce.

16 (6) RURAL AREA.—The term “rural area”
17 means an area that is located outside of a metropoli-
18 tan statistical area.

19 (7) RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—The
20 term “rural law enforcement agency” means a crimi-
21 nal justice or law enforcement agency that serves a
22 county, parish, city, town, township, borough, or vil-
23 lage that is located in a rural area.

1 **SEC. 3. EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM GRANTS.**

2 (a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Attorney General shall
3 annually make a grant to the National Center for Rural
4 Law Enforcement through the Office of Justice Programs,
5 Bureau of Justice Affairs, if the Executive Director cer-
6 tifies in writing to the Attorney General that the Center—

7 (1) is incorporated in accordance with applica-
8 ble State law;

9 (2) is in compliance with the bylaws of the Cen-
10 ter;

11 (3) will use amounts made available under this
12 section in accordance with subsection (b); and

13 (4) will not support any political party or can-
14 didate for elected or appointed office.

15 (b) USES OF FUNDS.—

16 (1) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—The Center
17 shall use amounts made available under this section
18 to develop an education and training program for
19 criminal justice or law enforcement agencies in rural
20 areas and the employees of those agencies, which
21 shall include—

22 (A) the development and delivery of man-
23 agement, forensic and computer education and
24 training, technical assistance, and practical re-
25 search and evaluation for employees of rural
26 law enforcement agencies (including tribal law

1 enforcement agencies and railroad law enforce-
2 ment agencies), including supervisory and execu-
3 tive managers of those agencies;

4 (B) conducting research into the causes
5 and prevention of criminal activity in rural
6 areas, including the causes, assessment, evalua-
7 tion, analysis, and prevention of criminal activ-
8 ity;

9 (C) the development and dissemination of
10 information designed to assist States and units
11 of local government in rural areas throughout
12 the United States;

13 (D) the establishment and maintenance of
14 a resource and information center for the collec-
15 tion, preparation, and dissemination of informa-
16 tion regarding criminal justice and law enforce-
17 ment in rural areas, including programs for the
18 prevention of crime and recidivism; and

19 (E) the delivery of assistance, in a con-
20 sulting capacity, to criminal justice agencies in
21 the development, establishment, maintenance,
22 and coordination of programs, facilities and
23 services, education, training, and research relat-
24 ing to crime in rural areas.

1 (2) PERMISSIVE USES OF FUNDS.—The Center
2 may use amounts made available under a grant
3 under this section to enhance the education and
4 training program developed under paragraph (1),
5 through—

6 (A) educational opportunities for rural law
7 enforcement agencies;

8 (B) the development, promotion, and vol-
9 untary adoption of educational and training
10 standards and accreditation certification pro-
11 grams for rural law enforcement agencies and
12 the employees of those agencies;

13 (C) grants to, and contracts with, State,
14 and local governments, law enforcement agen-
15 cies, public and private agencies, educational in-
16 stitutions, and other organizations and individ-
17 uals to carry out this paragraph;

18 (D) the formulation and recommendation
19 of law enforcement policy, goals, and standards
20 in rural areas applicable to criminal justice
21 agencies, organizations, institutions, and per-
22 sonnel; and

23 (E) coordination with institutions of higher
24 education for the purpose of encouraging and
25 delivering programs of study with those institu-

1 tions for employees of rural law enforcement
2 agencies.

3 (c) POWERS.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Ex-
4 ecutive Director may—

5 (1) request the head of any Federal department
6 or agency to detail, on a reimbursable basis, 1 or
7 more employees of the Federal department or agency
8 to the Center to assist the Center in carrying out
9 subsection (b), and any such detail shall be without
10 interruption or loss of civil service status or privi-
11 lege;

12 (2) request the Administrator of the General
13 Services Administration to provide the Center, on a
14 reimbursable basis, the administrative support serv-
15 ices necessary for the Center to carry out subsection
16 (b); and

17 (3) procure temporary and intermittent services
18 under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code,
19 at rates of compensation established by the Board,
20 but not to exceed the daily equivalent of the max-
21 imum rate of pay payable for a position at level IV
22 of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title
23 5, United States Code.

1 (d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The Executive Di-
2 rector shall annually submit to the Attorney General a re-
3 port, which shall include—

4 (1) a description of the education and training
5 program developed under subsection (b);

6 (2) the number and demographic representation
7 of individuals who attended programs sponsored by
8 the Center;

9 (3) a description of the extent to which re-
10 sources of other governmental agencies or private
11 entities were used in carrying out subsection (b);
12 and

13 (4) a description of the extent to which con-
14 tracts with other public and private entities were
15 used in carrying out subsection (b).

16 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this
18 section—

19 (1) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and

20 (2) such sums as may be necessary for each of
21 fiscal years 2003 through 2007.

22 **SEC. 4. REGIONAL CENTERS.**

23 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall establish 8
25 regional centers, 1 in each geographic region listed

1 in subsection (b) that will be under the supervision,
2 direction, and control of the Center.

3 (2) REQUIREMENT.—The 8 regional centers
4 shall be established 2 per year during 2002, 2003,
5 2004, and 2005.

6 (b) REGIONS.—For purposes of subsection (a), the
7 regions shall be as follows:

8 (1) REGION 1.—Region 1 shall be comprised of
9 the following States—

- 10 (A) Connecticut;
- 11 (B) Maine;
- 12 (C) Massachusetts;
- 13 (D) New Hampshire;
- 14 (E) New York;
- 15 (F) Rhode Island; and
- 16 (G) Vermont.

17 (2) REGION 2.—Region 2 shall be comprised of
18 the following States—

- 19 (A) Delaware;
- 20 (B) Maryland;
- 21 (C) New Jersey;
- 22 (D) Ohio;
- 23 (E) Pennsylvania;
- 24 (F) West Virginia; and
- 25 (G) Virginia.

1 (3) REGION 3.—Region 3 shall be comprised of
2 the following States—

- 3 (A) Alabama;
- 4 (B) Florida;
- 5 (C) Georgia;
- 6 (D) Mississippi;
- 7 (E) North Carolina; and
- 8 (F) South Carolina.

9 (4) REGION 4.—Region 4 shall be comprised of
10 the following States—

- 11 (A) Iowa;
- 12 (B) Minnesota;
- 13 (C) Nebraska;
- 14 (D) North Dakota;
- 15 (E) South Dakota; and
- 16 (F) Wisconsin.

17 (5) REGION 5.—Region 5 shall be comprised of
18 the following States—

- 19 (A) Arkansas;
- 20 (B) Illinois;
- 21 (C) Indiana;
- 22 (D) Kentucky;
- 23 (E) Louisiana;
- 24 (F) Michigan;
- 25 (G) Missouri; and

1 (H) Tennessee.

2 (6) REGION 6.—Region 6 shall be comprised of
3 the following States—

4 (A) Colorado;

5 (B) Kansas;

6 (C) New Mexico;

7 (D) Oklahoma; and

8 (E) Texas.

9 (7) REGION 7.—Region 7 shall be comprised of
10 the following States—

11 (A) Arizona;

12 (B) California;

13 (C) Nevada; and

14 (D) Utah.

15 (8) REGION 8.—Region 8 shall be comprised of
16 the following States—

17 (A) Alaska;

18 (B) Hawaii;

19 (C) Idaho;

20 (D) Montana;

21 (E) Oregon;

22 (F) Washington; and

23 (G) Wyoming.

24 (c) FUNDING.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—All funds for the regional
2 centers shall be distributed by the Center which
3 shall determine the budget base of each regional cen-
4 ter based upon the budget request required to be
5 submitted by each regional center under paragraph
6 (2).

7 (2) BUDGET REQUEST.—Each regional center
8 shall submit a budget request to the Center at such
9 time and in such manner as the Executive Director
10 may reasonably require.

11 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this
13 section—

14 (1) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2002;

15 (2) \$16,000,000 for fiscal year 2003;

16 (3) \$24,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

17 (4) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2005; and

18 (5) such sums as may be necessary for each of
19 fiscal years 2006 and 2007.

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