

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 315

To support first responders to protect homeland security and prevent and respond to acts of terrorism.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 2003

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, 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 support first responders to protect homeland security and prevent and respond to acts of terrorism.

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 “First Responders Part-  
5 nership Grant Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to support first responders  
8 to protect homeland security and prevent and respond to  
9 acts of terrorism.

1 **SEC. 3. FIRST RESPONDERS PARTNERSHIP GRANT PRO-**  
2 **GRAM FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Bureau of  
4 Justice Assistance is authorized to make grants to States,  
5 units of local government, and Indian tribes to support  
6 public safety officers in their efforts to protect homeland  
7 security and prevent and respond to acts of terrorism.

8 (b) USES OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this  
9 section shall be—

10 (1) distributed directly to the State, unit of  
11 local government, or Indian tribe; and

12 (2) used to fund overtime expenses, equipment,  
13 training, and facilities to support public safety offi-  
14 cers in their efforts to protect homeland security and  
15 prevent and respond to acts of terrorism.

16 (c) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Unless all eligible applica-  
17 tions submitted by any State or unit of local government  
18 within such State for a grant under this section have been  
19 funded, such State, together with grantees within the  
20 State (other than Indian tribes), shall be allocated in each  
21 fiscal year under this section not less than 0.75 percent  
22 of the total amount appropriated in the fiscal year for  
23 grants pursuant to this section, except that the United  
24 States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the  
25 Northern Mariana Islands shall each be allocated not less  
26 than 0.25 percent.

1 (d) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A qualifying State, unit of  
2 local government, or Indian tribe may not receive more  
3 than 5 percent of the total amount appropriated in each  
4 fiscal year for grants under this section, except that a  
5 State, together with the grantees within the State may not  
6 receive more than 20 percent of the total amount appro-  
7 priated in each fiscal year for grants under this section.

8 (e) MATCHING FUNDS.—The portion of the costs of  
9 a program provided by a grant under subsection (a) may  
10 not exceed 90 percent. Any funds appropriated by Con-  
11 gress for the activities of any agency of an Indian tribal  
12 government or the Bureau of Indian Affairs performing  
13 law enforcement functions on any Indian lands may be  
14 used to provide the non-Federal share of a matching re-  
15 quirement funded under this subsection. The Director may  
16 waive, in whole or in part, the requirement of this sub-  
17 section in the case of fiscal hardship as determined by the  
18 Director.

19 **SEC. 4. APPLICATIONS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—To request a grant under this  
21 Act, the chief executive of a State, unit of local govern-  
22 ment, or Indian tribe shall submit an application to the  
23 Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance in such form  
24 and containing such information as the Director may rea-  
25 sonably require.

1 (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the  
2 date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Bu-  
3 reau of Justice Assistance shall promulgate regulations to  
4 implement this section (including the information that  
5 must be included and the requirements that the States,  
6 units of local government, and Indian tribes must meet)  
7 in submitting the applications required under this section.

8 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

9 For purposes of this Act—

10 (1) the term “public safety officer” means any  
11 person serving a public or private agency with or  
12 without compensation as a law enforcement officer,  
13 as a firefighter, or as a member of a rescue squad  
14 or ambulance crew;

15 (2) the term “State” means each of the 50  
16 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth  
17 of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands,  
18 American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana  
19 Islands;

20 (3) the term “unit of local government” means  
21 a county, municipality, town, township, village, par-  
22 ish, borough, or other unit of general government  
23 below the State level;

24 (4) the term “Indian tribe” has the same mean-  
25 ing as in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determina-

1 tion and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.  
2 450b(e)); and

3 (5) the term “law enforcement officer” means  
4 any officer, agent, or employee of a State, unit of  
5 local government, public or private college or univer-  
6 sity, or Indian tribe authorized by law or by a gov-  
7 ernment agency to engage in or supervise the pre-  
8 vention, detection, or investigation of any violation  
9 of criminal law, or authorized by law to supervise  
10 sentenced criminal offenders.

11 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
13 this Act \$4,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 and  
14 2005.

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