

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2076

To improve security at State and local courthouses.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2012

Mr. FRANKEN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. CORNYN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

MARCH 19, 2012

Committee discharged; referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To improve security at State and local courthouses.

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 “Local Courthouse Safe-
5 ty Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROVIDING LOCAL COURTHOUSES WITH SECURITY**

7 **TRAINING AND ASSESSMENTS.**

8 The Attorney General, as part of the Preventing Vio-
9 lence Against Law Enforcement and Ensuring Officer Re-

1 silience and Survivability Initiative (VALOR) of the De-
2 partment of Justice, may provide safety training and tech-
3 nical assistance to local law enforcement agencies.

4 **SEC. 3. IMPROVING FLEXIBILITY OF STATES TO USE**
5 **GRANTS TO PROTECT COURTHOUSES.**

6 (a) STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PRO-
7 GRAM.—Section 2008(a) of the Homeland Security Act of
8 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(a)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (12), by striking “and” at the
10 end;

11 (2) by redesignating paragraph (13) as para-
12 graph (14); and

13 (3) by inserting after paragraph (12) the fol-
14 lowing:

15 “(13) improving security at courthouses of a
16 State or local government; and”.

17 (b) BYRNE GRANTS.—Section 501(a)(1)(B) of title
18 I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
19 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3751(a)(1)(B)) is amended by inserting
20 “, including programs to improve security at courthouses”
21 before the period.

1 **SEC. 4. IMPROVING ACCESS OF LOCAL COURTHOUSES TO**
 2 **EXCESS FEDERAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 5 of title
 4 40, United States Code, is amended by adding after sec-
 5 tion 529 the following:

6 **“§ 530. Excess security equipment**

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

8 “(1) the term ‘excess security equipment’
 9 means excess property that is used to detect weap-
 10 ons, including metal detectors, wands, and baggage
 11 screening devices; and

12 “(2) the term ‘qualifying State or local court-
 13 house’ means a courthouse of a State or local gov-
 14 ernment that has less security equipment than the
 15 security needs of the courthouse require.

16 “(b) DISPOSAL OF EXCESS SECURITY EQUIPMENT.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
 18 provision of this subchapter, the Administrator of
 19 General Services shall ensure that a State or local
 20 government has an opportunity to request to receive
 21 excess security equipment for use at a qualifying
 22 State or local courthouse before the excess security
 23 equipment is made available to any other individual
 24 or entity under this subchapter.

25 “(2) DISPOSAL.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
2 graph (B), upon request by a State or local
3 government for excess security equipment for
4 use at a qualifying State or local courthouse,
5 the excess security equipment shall be made
6 available to the State or local government with-
7 out cost, except for any costs of care and han-
8 dling.

9 “(B) MULTIPLE REQUESTS.—If more than
10 1 State or local government requests a par-
11 ticular piece of excess security equipment, the
12 excess security equipment shall be distributed
13 based on need, as determined by the Adminis-
14 trator of General Services, with priority given
15 to a qualifying State or local courthouse that
16 has no security equipment.”.

17 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—

18 The table of sections for chapter 5 of title 40, United
19 States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relat-
20 ing to section 529 the following:

“530. Excess security equipment.”.

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