

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2197

To provide for evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention to help build individual, family, and community strength and resiliency to ensure that youth lead productive, safe, healthy, gang-free, and law-abiding lives.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2015

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. JONES, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. GOWDY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To provide for evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention to help build individual, family, and community strength and resiliency to ensure that youth lead productive, safe, healthy, gang-free, and law-abiding lives.

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 “Youth Prison Reduc-
3 tion through Opportunities, Mentoring, Intervention, Sup-
4 port, and Education Act” or the “Youth PROMISE Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

6 The table of contents for this Act are as follows:

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- Sec. 4. Findings.

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Justice Practices.
- Sec. 302. Grants for regional research proven practices partnerships.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
4 trator” means the Administrator of the Office of Ju-
5 venile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

6 (2) COMMUNITY.—The term “community”
7 means a unit of local government or an Indian tribe,
8 or part of such a unit or tribe, as determined by
9 such a unit or tribe for the purpose of applying for
10 a grant under this Act.

11 (3) DESIGNATED GEOGRAPHIC AREA.—The
12 term “designated geographic area” means a 5-digit
13 postal ZIP Code assigned to a geographic area by
14 the United States Postal Service.

15 (4) EVIDENCE-BASED.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “evidence-
17 based”, when used with respect to a practice re-
18 lating to juvenile delinquency and criminal
19 street gang activity prevention and intervention,
20 means a practice (including a service, program,
21 activity, intervention, technology, or strategy)
22 for which the Administrator has determined—

23 (i) causal evidence documents a rela-
24 tionship between the practice and its in-
25 tended outcome, based on measures of the
26 direction and size of a change, and the ex-

1 tent to which a change may be attributed
2 to the practice; and

3 (ii) the use of scientific methods rules
4 out, to the extent possible, alternative ex-
5 planations for the documented change.

6 (B) SCIENTIFIC METHODS.—For the pur-
7 poses of subparagraph (A), the term “scientific
8 methods” means—

9 (i) evaluation by an experimental trial,
10 in which participants are randomly as-
11 signed to participate in the practice that is
12 subject to such trial; or

13 (ii) evaluation by a quasi-experimental
14 trial, in which the outcomes for partici-
15 pants are compared with outcomes for a
16 control group that is made up of individ-
17 uals who are similar to such participants.

18 (5) INTERVENTION.—The term “intervention”
19 means the provision of programs and services that
20 are supported by research, are evidence-based or
21 promising practices, and are provided to youth who
22 are involved in, or who are identified by evidence-
23 based risk assessment methods as being at high risk
24 of continued involvement in, juvenile delinquency or
25 criminal street gangs, as a result of indications that

1 demonstrate involvement with problems such as tru-
2 ancy, substance abuse, mental health treatment
3 needs, or siblings who have had involvement with ju-
4 venile or criminal justice systems.

5 (6) JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND CRIMINAL
6 STREET GANG ACTIVITY PREVENTION.—The term
7 “juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activ-
8 ity prevention” means the provision of programs and
9 resources to children and families who have not yet
10 had substantial contact with criminal justice or juve-
11 nile justice systems, that—

12 (A) are designed to reduce potential juve-
13 nile delinquency and criminal street gang activ-
14 ity risks; and

15 (B) are evidence-based or promising edu-
16 cational, health, mental health, school-based,
17 community-based, faith-based, parenting, job
18 training, social opportunities and experiences,
19 or other programs, for youth and their families,
20 that have been demonstrated to be effective in
21 reducing juvenile delinquency and criminal
22 street gang activity risks.

23 (7) PROMISING.—The term “promising”, when
24 used with respect to a practice relating to juvenile
25 delinquency and criminal street gang activity preven-

1 tion and intervention, means a practice (including a
2 service, program, activity, intervention, technology,
3 or strategy) that, based on statistical analyses or a
4 theory of change, the Administrator has deter-
5 mined—

6 (A) has outcomes from an evaluation that
7 demonstrate such practice reduces juvenile de-
8 linquency and criminal street gang activity; and

9 (B) is part of a study being conducted to
10 determine if such a practice is evidence-based.

11 (8) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
12 the several States, the District of Columbia, the
13 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands,
14 American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Is-
15 lands, and any other territories or possessions of the
16 United States.

17 (9) THEORY OF CHANGE.—The term “theory of
18 change” means a program planning strategy ap-
19 proved by the Administrator that outlines the types
20 of interventions and outcomes essential to achieving
21 a set of program goals.

22 (10) YOUTH.—The term “youth” means—

23 (A) an individual who is 18 years of age or
24 younger; or

1 (B) in any State in which the maximum
2 age at which the juvenile justice system of such
3 State has jurisdiction over individuals exceeds
4 18 years of age, an individual who is such max-
5 imum age or younger.

6 **SEC. 4. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Youth gang crime has taken a toll on a
9 number of communities, and senseless acts of gang-
10 related violence have imposed economic, social, and
11 human costs.

12 (2) Drug- and alcohol-dependent youth, and
13 youth dually diagnosed with addiction and mental
14 health disorders, are more likely to become involved
15 with the juvenile justice system than youth without
16 such risk factors, absent appropriate prevention and
17 intervention services.

18 (3) Children of color are over-represented rel-
19 ative to the general population at every stage of the
20 juvenile justice system. Black youth are 17 percent
21 of the United States population, but represent 38
22 percent of youth in secure placement juvenile facili-
23 ties, and 58 percent of youth incarcerated in adult
24 prisons.

1 (4) Research funded by the Department of Jus-
2 tice indicates that gang-membership is short-lived
3 among adolescents. With very few youth remaining
4 gang-involved throughout their adolescent years, on-
5 going opportunities for intervention exist.

6 (5) Criminal justice costs have become burden-
7 some in many States and cities, requiring reductions
8 in vital educational, social, welfare, mental health,
9 and related services.

10 (6) Direct expenditures for each of the major
11 criminal justice functions, police, corrections, and ju-
12 dicial services, have increased steadily over the last
13 30 years. In fiscal year 2012, Federal, State, and
14 local governments spent an estimated
15 \$265,000,000,000 for police protection, corrections,
16 and judicial and legal services, nearly a 213-percent
17 increase since 1982.

18 (7) Estimates suggest that each year the
19 United States incurs over \$8,000,000,000 in long-
20 term costs for the confinement of young people. The
21 average annual cost to incarcerate one youth is
22 \$146,302.

23 (8) Coordinated efforts of stakeholders in the
24 juvenile justice system in a local community, to-
25 gether with other organizations and community

1 members concerned with the safety and welfare of
2 children, have a strong record of demonstrated suc-
3 cess in reducing the impact of youth and gang-re-
4 lated crime and violence, as demonstrated in Boston,
5 Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; Richmond, Vir-
6 ginia; Los Angeles, California; and other commu-
7 nities.

8 (9) Investment in prevention and intervention
9 programs for children and youth, including quality
10 early childhood programs, comprehensive evidence-
11 based school, after school, and summer school pro-
12 grams, mentoring programs, mental health and
13 treatment programs, evidence-based job training
14 programs, and alternative intervention programs,
15 has been shown to lead to decreased youth arrests,
16 decreased delinquency, lower recidivism, and greater
17 financial savings from an educational, economic, so-
18 cial, and criminal justice perspective.

19 (10) Quality early childhood education pro-
20 grams have been demonstrated to help children start
21 school ready to learn and to reduce delinquency and
22 criminal street gang activity risks.

23 (11) Evidence-based mentoring programs have
24 been shown to prevent youth drug abuse and vio-
25 lence.

1 (12) Evidence-based school-based comprehensive instructional programs that pair youth with responsible adult mentors have been shown to have a strong impact upon delinquency prevention.

5 (13) After-school programs that connect children to caring adults and that provide constructive activities during the peak hours of juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity, between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., have been shown to reduce delinquency and the attendant costs imposed on the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

12 (14) States with higher levels of educational attainment have been shown to have crime rates lower than the national average. Researchers have found that a 5-percent increase in male high school graduation rates would produce an annual estimated savings of \$18,500,000,000 in crime-related expenses.

18 (15) Therapeutic programs that engage and motivate high-risk youth and their families to change behaviors that often result in criminal activity have been shown to significantly reduce recidivism among juvenile offenders, and significantly reduce the attendant costs of crime and delinquency imposed upon the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

1 (16) Comprehensive programs that target kids
2 who are already serious juvenile offenders by ad-
3 dressing the multiple factors in peer, school, neigh-
4 borhood, and family environments known to be re-
5 lated to delinquency can reduce recidivism among ju-
6 venile offenders and save the public significant eco-
7 nomic costs.

8 (17) There are many alternatives to incarcer-
9 ation of youth that have been proven to be more ef-
10 fective in reducing crime and violence at the Na-
11 tional, State, local, and tribal levels, and the failure
12 to provide for such effective alternatives is a perva-
13 sive problem that leads to increased youth, and later
14 adult, crime and violence.

15 (18) Savings achieved through early interven-
16 tion and prevention are significant, especially when
17 noncriminal justice social, educational, mental
18 health, and economic outcomes are considered.

19 (19) The prevention of child abuse and neglect
20 can help stop a cycle of violence and save up to
21 \$5.00 for every \$1.00 invested in preventing such
22 abuse and neglect.

23 (20) Targeting interventions at special youth
24 risk groups and focusing upon relatively low-cost

1 interventions increases the probability of fiscal ben-
2 efit.

3 (21) Evidence-based intervention treatment fa-
4 cilities have been shown to reduce youth delinquency
5 and to be cost-effective.

6 (22) States, including Wisconsin, Ohio, New
7 York, Texas, and Pennsylvania, have seen a reduc-
8 tion in juvenile incarceration due to a reallocation of
9 criminal justice funds towards prevention programs.

10 **TITLE I—FEDERAL COORDINA-**
11 **TION OF LOCAL AND TRIBAL**
12 **JUVENILE JUSTICE INFORMA-**
13 **TION AND EFFORTS**

14 **SEC. 101. PROMISE ADVISORY PANEL.**

15 (a) ORGANIZATION OF STATE ADVISORY GROUP
16 MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES.—Section 223(f) of the Ju-
17 venile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974
18 (42 U.S.C. 5633(f)) is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “an eligible
20 organization composed of member representatives of
21 the State advisory groups appointed under sub-
22 section (a)(3)” and inserting “a nonpartisan, non-
23 profit organization that is described in section
24 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,”;
25 and

1 (2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as fol-
2 lows:

3 “(2) ASSISTANCE.—To be eligible to receive
4 such assistance, such organization shall—

5 “(A) be governed by individuals who—

6 “(i) have been appointed by a chief
7 executive of a State to serve as a State ad-
8 visory group member under subsection
9 (a)(3); and

10 “(ii) are elected to serve as a gov-
11 erning officer of such organization by a
12 majority of the Chairs (or Chair-designees)
13 of all such State advisory groups;

14 “(B) include member representatives from
15 a majority of such State advisory groups, who
16 shall be representative of regionally and demo-
17 graphically diverse States and jurisdictions;

18 “(C) annually seek appointments by the
19 chief executive of each State of one State advi-
20 sory group member and one alternate State ad-
21 visory group member from each such State to
22 implement the advisory functions specified in
23 clauses (iv) and (v) of subparagraph (D), in-
24 cluding serving on the PROMISE Advisory

1 Panel, and make a record of any such appoint-
2 ments available to the public; and

3 “(D) agree to carry out activities that in-
4 clude—

5 “(i) conducting an annual conference
6 of such member representatives for pur-
7 poses relating to the activities of such
8 State advisory groups;

9 “(ii) disseminating information, data,
10 standards, advanced techniques, and pro-
11 gram models;

12 “(iii) reviewing Federal policies re-
13 garding juvenile justice and delinquency
14 prevention;

15 “(iv) advising the Administrator with
16 respect to particular functions or aspects
17 of the work of the Office, and appointing
18 a representative, diverse group of members
19 of such organization under subparagraph
20 (C) to serve as an advisory panel of State
21 juvenile justice advisors (referred to as the
22 ‘PROMISE Advisory Panel’) to carry out
23 the functions specified in subsection (g);
24 and

1 “(v) advising the President and Con-
2 gress with regard to State perspectives on
3 the operation of the Office and Federal
4 legislation pertaining to juvenile justice
5 and delinquency prevention.”.

6 (b) PROMISE ADVISORY PANEL.—Section 223 of
7 the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of
8 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5633) is further amended by adding at
9 the end the following new subsection:

10 “(g) PROMISE ADVISORY PANEL.—

11 “(1) FUNCTIONS.—The PROMISE Advisory
12 Panel required under subsection (f)(2)(D) shall—

13 “(A) assess successful evidence-based and
14 promising practices related to juvenile delin-
15 quency and criminal street gang activity preven-
16 tion and intervention carried out by PROMISE
17 Coordinating Councils under such Act;

18 “(B) provide the Administrator with a list
19 of individuals and organizations with experience
20 in administering or evaluating practices that
21 serve youth involved in, or at risk of involve-
22 ment in, juvenile delinquency and criminal
23 street gang activity, from which the Adminis-
24 trator shall select individuals who shall—

1 “(i) provide to the Administrator peer
2 reviews of applications submitted by units
3 of local government and Indian tribes pur-
4 suant to title II of such Act, to ensure that
5 such applications demonstrate a clear plan
6 to—

7 “(I) serve youth as part of an en-
8 tire family unit; and

9 “(II) coordinate the delivery of
10 service to youth among agencies; and

11 “(ii) advise the Administrator with re-
12 spect to the award and allocation of
13 PROMISE Planning grants to local and
14 tribal governments that develop PROMISE
15 Coordinating Councils, and of PROMISE
16 Implementation grants to such PROMISE
17 Coordinating Councils, pursuant to title II
18 of such Act; and

19 “(C) develop performance standards to be
20 used to evaluate programs and activities carried
21 out with grants under title II of the Youth
22 PROMISE Act, including the evaluation of
23 changes achieved as a result of such programs
24 and activities related to decreases in juvenile

1 delinquency and criminal street gang activity,
2 including—

3 “(i) prevention of involvement by at-
4 risk youth in juvenile delinquency or crimi-
5 nal street gang activity;

6 “(ii) diversion of youth with a high
7 risk of continuing involvement in juvenile
8 delinquency or criminal street gang activ-
9 ity; and

10 “(iii) financial savings from deferred
11 or eliminated costs, or other benefits, as a
12 result of such programs and activities, and
13 the reinvestment by the unit or tribe of
14 any such savings.

15 “(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 18
16 months after the date of the enactment of the Youth
17 PROMISE Act, and annually thereafter, the PROM-
18 ISE Advisory Panel shall prepare a report con-
19 taining the findings and determinations under para-
20 graph (1)(A) and shall submit such report to Con-
21 gress, the President, the Attorney General, and the
22 chief executive and chief law enforcement officer of
23 each State, unit of local government, and Indian
24 tribe.”.

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
2 299(a)(1) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Preven-
3 tion Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5671(a)(1)) is amended by
4 striking “2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007” and insert-
5 ing “2016 through 2020”.

6 **SEC. 102. GEOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCE ALLO-**
7 **CATION.**

8 (a) GRANT FOR COLLECTION OF DATA TO DETER-
9 MINE NEED.—Subject to the availability of appropria-
10 tions, the Administrator shall award a grant, on a com-
11 petitive basis, to an organization to—

12 (1) collect and analyze data related to the exist-
13 ing juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang ac-
14 tivity prevention and intervention needs and re-
15 sources in each designated geographic area;

16 (2) use the data collected and analyzed under
17 paragraph (1) to compile a list of designated geo-
18 graphic areas that have the most need of resources,
19 based on such data, to carry out juvenile delin-
20 quency and criminal street gang activity prevention
21 and intervention;

22 (3) use the data collected and analyzed under
23 paragraph (1) to rank the areas listed under para-
24 graph (2) in descending order by the amount of need
25 for resources to carry out juvenile delinquency and

1 criminal street gang activity prevention and inter-
2 vention, ranking the area with the greatest need for
3 such resources highest; and

4 (4) periodically update the list and rankings
5 under paragraph (3) as the Administrator deter-
6 mines to be appropriate.

7 (b) DATA SOURCES.—In compiling such list and de-
8 termining such rankings, the organization shall collect and
9 analyze data relating to juvenile delinquency and criminal
10 street gang activity prevention and intervention—

11 (1) using the geographic information system
12 and Web-based mapping application known as the
13 Socioeconomic Mapping and Resource Topography
14 (SMART) system;

15 (2) from the Department of Health and Human
16 Services, the Department of Labor, the Department
17 of Housing and Urban Development, and the De-
18 partment of Education; and

19 (3) from the annual KIDS Count Data Book
20 and other data made available by the KIDS Count
21 initiative of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

22 (c) USE OF DATA BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—The list
23 and rankings required by this section shall be provided
24 to the Administrator to be used to provide funds under
25 this Act in the most strategic and effective manner to en-

1 sure that resources and services are provided to youth in
2 the communities with the greatest need for such resources
3 and services.

4 (d) LIMITATION ON USE OF COLLECTED DATA.—
5 The information collected and analyzed under this section
6 may not be used for any purpose other than to carry out
7 the purposes of this Act. Such information may not be
8 used for any purpose related to the investigation or pros-
9 ecution of any person, or for profiling of individuals based
10 on race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, or any other
11 characteristic.

12 (e) AUTHORIZATION AND LIMITATION OF APPRO-
13 PRIATIONS.—Of the amount made available under section
14 224 to carry out this Act—

15 (1) for fiscal year 2016, not more than 5 per-
16 cent of such amount, or \$1,000,000, whichever is
17 less, shall be made available to carry out this sec-
18 tion; and

19 (2) for fiscal years 2017 through 2020, not
20 more than 2 percent of such amount, or \$400,000,
21 whichever is less, shall be made available to carry
22 out this section.

1 **TITLE II—PROMISE GRANTS**

2 **SEC. 201. PURPOSES.**

3 The purposes of the grant programs established
4 under this title are to—

5 (1) enable local and tribal communities to as-
6 sess the unmet needs of youth who are involved in,
7 or are at risk of involvement in, juvenile delinquency
8 or criminal street gangs;

9 (2) develop plans appropriate for a community
10 to address those unmet needs with juvenile delin-
11 quency and gang prevention and intervention prac-
12 tices; and

13 (3) implement and evaluate such plans in a
14 manner consistent with this Act.

15 **Subtitle A—PROMISE Assessment**
16 **and Planning Grants**

17 **SEC. 202. PROMISE ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING GRANTS**
18 **AUTHORIZED.**

19 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Administrator is
20 authorized to award grants to units of local government
21 and Indian tribes to assist PROMISE Coordinating Coun-
22 cils with planning and assessing evidence-based and prom-
23 ising practices relating to juvenile delinquency and crimi-
24 nal street gang activity prevention and intervention, espe-
25 cially for youth who are involved in, or who are at risk

1 of involvement in, juvenile delinquency and criminal street
2 gang activity. Such PROMISE Coordinating Councils
3 shall—

4 (1) conduct an objective needs and strengths
5 assessment in accordance with section 203; and

6 (2) develop a PROMISE Plan in accordance
7 with section 204, based on the assessment conducted
8 in accordance with section 203.

9 (b) GRANT DURATION, AMOUNT, AND ALLOCA-
10 TION.—

11 (1) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this
12 section shall be for a period not to exceed one year.

13 (2) MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant
14 awarded under this section shall not exceed
15 \$300,000.

16 (c) ALLOCATION.—

17 (1) MINIMUM ALLOCATION.—Subject to the
18 availability of appropriations, the Administrator
19 shall ensure that the total funds allocated under this
20 section to units of local governments and Indian
21 tribes in a State shall not be less than \$1,000,000.

22 (2) RATABLE REDUCTION.—If the amount
23 made available for grants under this section for any
24 fiscal year is less than the amount required to pro-
25 vide the minimum allocation of funds under para-

1 graph (1) to units of local government and Indian
2 tribes in each State, then the amount of such min-
3 imum allocation shall be ratably reduced.

4 **SEC. 203. PROMISE COORDINATING COUNCILS.**

5 To be eligible to receive a grant under this subtitle,
6 a unit of local government or an Indian tribe shall estab-
7 lish a PROMISE Coordinating Council for each commu-
8 nity of such unit or tribe, respectively, for which such unit
9 or tribe is applying for a grant under this subtitle. Each
10 such community shall include one or more designated geo-
11 graphic areas identified on the list required under section
12 102(a)(2). The members of such a PROMISE Coordi-
13 nating Council shall be representatives of public and pri-
14 vate sector entities and individuals that—

15 (1) shall include, to the extent possible, at least
16 one representative from each of the following:

17 (A) the local chief executive's office;

18 (B) a local educational agency;

19 (C) a local health agency or provider;

20 (D) a local mental health agency or pro-
21 vider, unless the representative under subpara-
22 graph (C) also meets the requirements of this
23 subparagraph;

24 (E) a local public housing agency;

25 (F) a local law enforcement agency;

- 1 (G) a local child welfare agency;
- 2 (H) a local juvenile court;
- 3 (I) a local juvenile prosecutor's office;
- 4 (J) a private juvenile residential care enti-
- 5 ty;
- 6 (K) a local juvenile public defender's office;
- 7 (L) a State juvenile correctional entity;
- 8 (M) a local business community represent-
- 9 ative; and
- 10 (N) a local faith-based community rep-
- 11 resentative;

12 (2) shall include two representatives from each

13 of the following:

14 (A) parents who have minor children, and

15 who have an interest in the local juvenile or

16 criminal justice systems;

17 (B) youth between the ages of 15 and 24

18 who reside in the jurisdiction of the unit or

19 tribe; and

20 (C) members from nonprofit community-

21 based organizations that provide effective delin-

22 quency prevention and intervention to youth in

23 the jurisdiction of the unit or tribe; and

24 (3) may include other members, as the unit or

25 tribe determines to be appropriate.

1 **SEC. 204. NEEDS AND STRENGTHS ASSESSMENT.**

2 (a) ASSESSMENT.—Each PROMISE Coordinating
3 Council receiving funds from a unit of local government
4 or Indian tribe under this subtitle shall conduct an objec-
5 tive strengths and needs assessment of the resources of
6 the community for which such PROMISE Coordinating
7 Council was established, to identify the unmet needs of
8 youth in the community with respect to evidence-based
9 and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency
10 and criminal street gang activity prevention and interven-
11 tion. The PROMISE Coordinating Council shall consult
12 with a research partner receiving a grant under section
13 302 for assistance with such assessment. Such assessment
14 shall include, with respect to the community for which
15 such PROMISE Coordinating Council was established—

16 (1) the number of youth who are at-risk of in-
17 volvement in juvenile delinquency or street gang ac-
18 tivity;

19 (2) the number of youth who are involved in ju-
20 venile delinquency or criminal street gang activity,
21 including the number of such youth who are at high
22 risk of continued involvement;

23 (3) youth unemployment rates during the sum-
24 mer;

25 (4) the number of individuals on public finan-
26 cial assistance (including a breakdown of the num-

1 bers of men, women, and children on such assist-
2 ance);

3 (5) the estimated number of youth who are
4 chronically truant;

5 (6) the number of youth who have dropped out
6 of school in the previous year;

7 (7) for the year before such assessment, the es-
8 timated total amount expended (by the community
9 and other entities) for the incarceration of offenders
10 who were convicted or adjudicated delinquent for an
11 offense that was committed in such community, in-
12 cluding amounts expended for the incarceration of
13 offenders in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities that
14 are located in the United States but are not located
15 in such community;

16 (8) a comparison of the amount under para-
17 graph (7) with an estimation of the amount that
18 would be expended for the incarceration of offenders
19 described in such paragraph if the number of offend-
20 ers described in such paragraph was equal to the na-
21 tional average incarceration rate per 100,000 popu-
22 lation; and

23 (9) a description of evidence-based and prom-
24 ising practices related to juvenile delinquency and
25 criminal street gang activity prevention available for

1 youth in the community, including school-based pro-
2 grams, after school programs (particularly programs
3 that have activities available for youth between 3
4 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the afternoon), weekend activi-
5 ties and programs, youth mentoring programs, faith
6 and community-based programs, summer activities,
7 and summer jobs, if any; and

8 (10) a description of evidence-based and prom-
9 ising intervention practices available for youth in the
10 community.

11 (b) LIMITATION ON USE OF ASSESSMENT INFORMA-
12 TION.—Information gathered pursuant to this section may
13 be used for the sole purpose of developing a PROMISE
14 Plan in accordance with this subtitle.

15 **SEC. 205. PROMISE PLAN COMPONENTS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each PROMISE Coordinating
17 Council receiving funds from a unit of local government
18 or Indian tribe under this subtitle shall develop a PROM-
19 ISE Plan to provide for the coordination of, and, as appro-
20 priate, to support the delivery of, evidence-based and
21 promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and
22 criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention
23 to youth and families who reside in the community for
24 which such PROMISE Coordinating Council was estab-
25 lished. Such a PROMISE Plan shall—

1 (1) include the strategy by which the PROMISE
2 Coordinating Council plans to prioritize and al-
3 locate resources and services toward the unmet
4 needs of youth in the community, consistent with the
5 needs and available resources of communities with
6 the greatest need for assistance, as determined pur-
7 suant to section 102;

8 (2) include a combination of evidence-based and
9 promising prevention and intervention practices that
10 are responsive to the needs of the community; and

11 (3) ensure that cultural and linguistic needs of
12 the community are met.

13 (b) MANDATORY COMPONENTS.—Each PROMISE
14 Plan shall—

15 (1) include a plan to connect youth identified in
16 paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 204(a) to evi-
17 dence-based and promising practices related to juve-
18 nile delinquency and criminal street gang activity
19 prevention and intervention;

20 (2) identify the amount or percentage of local
21 funds that are available to the PROMISE Coordi-
22 nating Council to carry out the PROMISE Plan;

23 (3) provide strategies to improve indigent de-
24 fense delivery systems, with particular attention
25 given to groups of children who are disproportion-

1 ately represented in the State delinquency system
2 and Federal criminal justice system, as compared to
3 the representation of such groups in the general
4 population of the State;

5 (4) provide for training (which complies with
6 the American Bar Association Juvenile Justice
7 Standards for the representation and care of youth
8 in the juvenile justice system) of prosecutors, de-
9 fenders, probation officers, judges and other court
10 personnel related to issues concerning the develop-
11 mental needs, challenges, and potential of youth in
12 the juvenile justice system, (including training re-
13 lated to adolescent development and mental health
14 issues, and the expected impact of evidence-based
15 practices and cost reduction strategies);

16 (5) ensure that the number of youth involved in
17 the juvenile delinquency and criminal justice systems
18 does not increase as a result of the activities under-
19 taken with the funds provided under this subtitle;

20 (6) describe the coordinated strategy that will
21 be used by the PROMISE Coordinating Council to
22 provide at-risk youth with evidence-based and prom-
23 ising practices related to juvenile delinquency and
24 criminal street gang activity prevention and inter-
25 vention;

1 (7) propose the performance evaluation process
2 to be used to carry out section 211(d), which shall
3 include performance measures to assess efforts to
4 address the unmet needs of youth in the community
5 with evidence-based and promising practices related
6 to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang ac-
7 tivity prevention and intervention; and

8 (8) identify the research partner the PROMISE
9 Coordinating Council will use to obtain information
10 on evidence-based and promising practices related to
11 juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activ-
12 ity prevention and intervention, and for the evalua-
13 tion under section 211(d) of the results of the activi-
14 ties carried out with funds under this subtitle.

15 (c) VOLUNTARY COMPONENTS.—In addition to the
16 components under subsection (b), a PROMISE Plan may
17 include evidence-based or promising practices related to
18 juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity pre-
19 vention and intervention in the following categories:

20 (1) Early childhood development services (such
21 as pre-natal and neo-natal health services), early
22 childhood prevention, voluntary home visiting pro-
23 grams, nurse-family partnership programs, par-
24 enting and healthy relationship skills training, child

1 abuse prevention programs, Early Head Start, and
2 Head Start.

3 (2) Child protection and safety services (such as
4 foster care and adoption assistance programs), fam-
5 ily stabilization programs, child welfare services, and
6 family violence intervention programs.

7 (3) Youth and adolescent development services,
8 including job training and apprenticeship programs,
9 job placement and retention training, education and
10 after school programs (such as school programs with
11 shared governance by students, teachers, and par-
12 ents, and activities for youth between the hours of
13 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. in the afternoon), mentoring pro-
14 grams, conflict resolution skills training, sports,
15 arts, life skills, employment and recreation pro-
16 grams, summer jobs, and summer recreation pro-
17 grams, and alternative school resources for youth
18 who have dropped out of school or demonstrate
19 chronic truancy.

20 (4) Health and mental health services, includ-
21 ing cognitive behavioral therapy, play therapy, and
22 peer mentoring and counseling.

23 (5) Substance abuse counseling and treatment
24 services, including harm-reduction strategies.

1 (6) Emergency, transitional, and permanent
2 housing assistance (such as safe shelter and housing
3 for runaway and homeless youth).

4 (7) Targeted gang prevention, intervention, and
5 exit services such as tattoo removal, successful mod-
6 els of anti-gang crime outreach programs (such as
7 “street worker” programs), and other criminal street
8 gang truce or peacemaking activities.

9 (8) Training and education programs for preg-
10 nant teens and teen parents.

11 (9) Restorative justice programs.

12 (10) Alternatives to detention and confinement
13 programs (such as mandated participation in com-
14 munity service, restitution, counseling, and intensive
15 individual and family therapeutic approaches).

16 (11) Pre-release, post-release, and reentry serv-
17 ices to assist detained and incarcerated youth with
18 transitioning back into and reentering the commu-
19 nity.

20 **SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

21 For fiscal years 2016 through 2020, of the amount
22 made available under section 224 to carry out this Act
23 for any fiscal year, not more than 15 percent shall be
24 made available to carry out this subtitle.

1 **Subtitle B—PROMISE**
2 **Implementation Grants**

3 **SEC. 211. PROMISE IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS AUTHOR-**
4 **IZED.**

5 (a) PROMISE IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS AUTHOR-
6 IZED.—The Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Jus-
7 tice and Delinquency Prevention is authorized to award
8 grants to units of local government and Indian tribes to
9 assist PROMISE Coordinating Councils with imple-
10 menting PROMISE Plans developed pursuant to subtitle
11 A.

12 (b) GRANT DURATION AND AMOUNT.—

13 (1) DURATION.—A grant awarded under this
14 subtitle shall be for a three-year period.

15 (2) MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant
16 awarded under this subtitle shall not be for more
17 than \$10,000,000 per year for each year of the
18 grant period.

19 (c) NON-FEDERAL FUNDS REQUIRED.—For each fis-
20 cal year during the three-year grant period for a grant
21 under this subtitle, each unit of local government or In-
22 dian tribe receiving such a grant for a PROMISE Coordi-
23 nating Council shall provide, from non-Federal funds, in
24 cash or in kind, 25 percent of the costs of the activities
25 carried out with such grant.

1 (d) EVALUATION.—Of any funds provided to a unit
2 of local government or an Indian tribe for a grant under
3 this subtitle, not more than \$100,000 shall be used to pro-
4 vide a contract to a competitively selected organization to
5 assess the progress of the unit or tribe in addressing the
6 unmet needs of youth in the community, in accordance
7 with the performance measures under section 204(b)(7).

8 **SEC. 212. PROMISE IMPLEMENTATION GRANT APPLICA-**
9 **TION REQUIREMENTS.**

10 (a) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—To be eligible to re-
11 ceive a PROMISE Implementation grant under this sub-
12 title, a unit of local government or Indian tribe that re-
13 ceived a PROMISE Assessment and Planning grant under
14 subtitle A shall submit an application to the Administrator
15 of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Preven-
16 tion not later than one year after the date such unit of
17 local government or Indian tribe was awarded such grant
18 under subtitle A, in such manner, and accompanied by
19 such information, as the Administrator, after consultation
20 with the organization under section 223(f)(1) of the Juve-
21 nile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42
22 U.S.C. 5633(f)(1)), may require.

23 (b) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each application
24 submitted under subsection (a) shall—

1 (1) identify potential savings from criminal jus-
2 tice costs, public assistance costs, and other costs
3 avoided by utilizing evidence-based and promising
4 practices related to juvenile delinquency and crimi-
5 nal street gang activity prevention and intervention;

6 (2) document—

7 (A) investment in evidence-based and
8 promising practices related to juvenile delin-
9 quency and criminal street gang activity preven-
10 tion and intervention to be provided by the unit
11 of local government or Indian tribe;

12 (B) the activities to be undertaken with
13 the grants funds;

14 (C) any expected efficiencies in the juvenile
15 justice or other local systems to be attained as
16 a result of implementation of the programs
17 funded by the grant; and

18 (D) outcomes from such activities, in
19 terms of the expected numbers related to re-
20 duced criminal activity;

21 (3) describe how savings sustained from invest-
22 ment in prevention and intervention practices will be
23 reinvested in the continuing implementation of the
24 PROMISE Plan; and

1 (4) provide an assurance that the local fiscal
2 contribution with respect to evidence-based and
3 promising practices related to juvenile delinquency
4 and criminal street gang activity prevention and
5 intervention in the community for which the PROM-
6 ISE Coordinating Council was established for each
7 year of the grant period will not be less than the
8 local fiscal contribution with respect to such prac-
9 tices in the community for the year preceding the
10 first year of the grant period.

11 **SEC. 213. GRANT AWARD GUIDELINES.**

12 (a) **SELECTION AND DISTRIBUTION.**—Grants award-
13 ed under this subtitle shall be awarded on a competitive
14 basis. The Administrator shall—

15 (1) take such steps as may be necessary to en-
16 sure that grants are awarded to units of local gov-
17 ernments and Indian tribes in areas with the highest
18 concentrations of youth who are—

19 (A) at risk of involvement in juvenile delin-
20 quency or criminal street gang activity; and

21 (B) involved in juvenile delinquency or
22 street gang activity and who are at high-risk of
23 continued involvement; and

24 (2) give consideration to the need for grants to
25 be awarded to units of local governments and Indian

1 tribes in each region of the United States, and
2 among urban, suburban, and rural areas.

3 (b) EXTENSION OF GRANT AWARD.—The Adminis-
4 trator may extend the grant period under section
5 211(b)(1) for a PROMISE Implementation grant to a unit
6 of local government or an Indian tribe, in accordance with
7 regulations issued by the Administrator.

8 (c) RENEWAL OF GRANT AWARD.—Subject to the
9 availability of appropriations, the Administrator may
10 renew a PROMISE Implementation grant to a unit of
11 local government or an Indian tribe to provide such unit
12 or tribe with additional funds to continue implementation
13 of a PROMISE Plan. Such a renewal—

14 (1) shall be initiated by an application for re-
15 newal from a unit of local government or an Indian
16 tribe;

17 (2) shall be carried out in accordance with reg-
18 ulations issued by the Administrator; and

19 (3) shall not be granted unless the Adminis-
20 trator determines such a renewal to be appropriate
21 based on the results of the evaluation conducted
22 under section 223(a) with respect to the community
23 of such unit or tribe for which a PROMISE Coordi-
24 nating Council was established, and for which such
25 unit or tribe is applying for renewal.

1 **SEC. 214. REPORTS.**

2 Not later than one year after the end of the grant
3 period for which a unit of local government or an Indian
4 tribe receives a PROMISE Implementation grant, and an-
5 nually thereafter for as long as such unit or tribe con-
6 tinues to receive Federal funding for a PROMISE Coordi-
7 nating Council, such unit or tribe shall report to the Ad-
8 ministrator regarding the use of Federal funds to imple-
9 ment the PROMISE Plan developed under subtitle A.

10 **SEC. 215. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 For fiscal years 2016 through 2020, of the amount
12 made available under section 224 to carry out this Act
13 for any fiscal year, not more than 75 percent shall be
14 made available to carry out this subtitle.

15 **Subtitle C—General PROMISE**
16 **Grant Provisions**

17 **SEC. 221. NONSUPPLANTING CLAUSE.**

18 A unit of local government or Indian tribe receiving
19 a grant under this title shall use such grant only to supple-
20 ment, and not supplant, the amount of funds that, in the
21 absence of such grant, would be available to address the
22 needs of youth in the community with respect to evidence-
23 based and promising practices related to juvenile delin-
24 quency and criminal street gang activity prevention and
25 intervention.

1 **SEC. 222. GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW PANEL.**

2 The Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice
3 and Delinquency Prevention, in conjunction with the
4 PROMISE Advisory Panel, shall establish and utilize a
5 transparent, reliable, and valid system for evaluating ap-
6 plications for PROMISE Assessment and Planning grants
7 and for PROMISE Implementation grants, and shall de-
8 termine which applicants meet the criteria for funding,
9 based primarily on a determination of greatest need (in
10 accordance with section 102), with due consideration to
11 other enumerated factors and the indicated ability of the
12 applicant to successfully implement the program described
13 in the application.

14 **SEC. 223. EVALUATION OF PROMISE GRANT PROGRAMS.**

15 (a) EVALUATION REQUIRED.—Subject to the avail-
16 ability of appropriations under this title, the Adminis-
17 trator shall, in consultation with the organization provided
18 assistance under section 223(f)(1) of the Juvenile Justice
19 and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.
20 5633(f)(1)), provide for an evaluation of the programs and
21 activities carried out with grants under this title. In car-
22 rying out this section, the Administrator shall—

23 (1) award grants to institutions of higher edu-
24 cation (including institutions that are eligible to re-
25 ceive funds under part F of title III of the Higher
26 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q et seq.)),

1 to facilitate the evaluation process and measurement
2 of achieved outcomes;

3 (2) identify evidence-based and promising prac-
4 tices used by PROMISE Coordinating Councils
5 under PROMISE Implementation grants that have
6 proven to be effective in preventing involvement in,
7 or diverting further involvement in, juvenile delin-
8 quency or criminal street gang activity; and

9 (3) ensure—

10 (A) that such evaluation is based on the
11 performance standards that are developed by
12 the PROMISE Advisory Panel in accordance
13 with section 223(g) of the Juvenile Justice and
14 Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (as added
15 by section 101(b) of this Act);

16 (B) the development of longitudinal and
17 clinical trial evaluation and performance meas-
18 urements with regard to the evidence-based and
19 promising practices funded under this title; and

20 (C) the dissemination of the practices iden-
21 tified in paragraph (2) to the National Re-
22 search Center for Proven Juvenile Justice Prac-
23 tices (established under section 301), units of
24 local government, and Indian tribes to promote
25 the use of such practices by such units and

1 tribes to prevent involvement in, or to divert
2 further involvement in, juvenile delinquency or
3 criminal street gang activity.

4 (b) RESULTS TO THE NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER
5 FOR PROVEN JUVENILE JUSTICE PRACTICES.—The Ad-
6 ministrator shall provide the results of the evaluation
7 under subsection (a) to the National Research Center for
8 Proven Juvenile Justice Practices established under sec-
9 tion 301.

10 **SEC. 224. RESERVATION OF FUNDS.**

11 For fiscal years 2016 through 2020, not more than
12 20 percent of the total amount appropriated to the Office
13 of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to carry
14 out Youth Mentoring Programs for each fiscal year shall
15 be made available to carry out this Act.

16 **TITLE III—PROMISE RESEARCH**
17 **CENTERS**

18 **SEC. 301. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH**
19 **CENTER FOR PROVEN JUVENILE JUSTICE**
20 **PRACTICES.**

21 (a) CENTER ESTABLISHED.—Subject to the avail-
22 ability of appropriations, the Administrator shall award a
23 grant to a nonprofit organization with a national reputa-
24 tion for expertise in operating or evaluating effective, evi-
25 dence-based practices related to juvenile delinquency and

1 criminal street gang activity prevention or intervention to
2 develop a National Research Center for Proven Juvenile
3 Justice Practices. Such Center shall—

4 (1) collaborate with institutions of higher edu-
5 cation as regional partners to create a best practices
6 juvenile justice information-sharing network to sup-
7 port the programs and activities carried out with
8 grants under title II of this Act;

9 (2) collect, and disseminate to PROMISE Co-
10 ordinating Councils, research and other information
11 about evidence-based and promising practices related
12 to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang ac-
13 tivity prevention and intervention to inform the ef-
14 forts of PROMISE Coordinating Councils and re-
15 gional research partners and to support the pro-
16 grams and activities carried out with grants under
17 title II of this Act;

18 (3) increase the public’s knowledge and under-
19 standing of effective juvenile justice practices to pre-
20 vent crime and delinquency and reduce recidivism;
21 and

22 (4) develop, manage, and regularly update a
23 site to disseminate proven practices for successful
24 juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the
2 amount made available under section 224 to carry out this
3 Act—

4 (1) for fiscal year 2016, not more than 2.5 per-
5 cent of such amount shall be made available to carry
6 out this section; and

7 (2) for fiscal years 2017 through 2020, not
8 more than four percent of such amount shall be
9 made available to carry out this section.

10 **SEC. 302. GRANTS FOR REGIONAL RESEARCH PROVEN**
11 **PRACTICES PARTNERSHIPS.**

12 (a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Adminis-
13 trator shall, subject to the availability of appropriations,
14 establish a grant program to award grants to institutions
15 of higher education to serve as regional research partners
16 with PROMISE Coordinating Councils that are located in
17 the same geographic region as an institution, in collabora-
18 tion with the National Research Center for Proven Juve-
19 nile Justice Practices authorized under section 301. Re-
20 gional research partners shall provide research support to
21 such PROMISE Coordinating Councils, including—

22 (1) assistance with preparing PROMISE grant
23 applications under title II, including collection of
24 baseline data for such applications;

1 (2) assistance with the needs and strengths as-
2 assessments conducted under section 203; and

3 (3) provision of support services to PROMISE
4 grant recipients for data collection and analysis to
5 assess progress under the PROMISE grant.

6 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the
7 amount made available under section 224 to carry out this
8 Act—

9 (1) for fiscal year 2016, not more than 2.5 per-
10 cent of such amount shall be made available to carry
11 out this section; and

12 (2) for fiscal years 2017 through 2020, not
13 more than four percent of such amount shall be
14 made available to carry out this section.

○