

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1724

To amend title V of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to prohibit Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants from being made available to a State or unit of local government that has a contract with a person that charges a fee to pay-only probationers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2017

Mr. TAKANO (for himself, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. NADLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title V of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to prohibit Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants from being made available to a State or unit of local government that has a contract with a person that charges a fee to pay-only probationers, 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 “End of Debtors Prison
5 Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONTRACTS WITH PROBATION COMPANIES.**

2 (a) LIMITATION ON BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
3 GRANTS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 501 of the Omnibus
5 Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
6 U.S.C. 3750) is amended by adding at the end the
7 following:

8 “(h) PROHIBITED RECIPIENTS OF FUNDS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—No Federal funds may be
10 made available under this subpart, including through
11 subawards, to any State or unit of local government
12 that has a contract with a person who—

13 “(A) under such contract, collects fees and
14 fines imposed by a State or local court on a
15 pay-only probationer; and

16 “(B) collects from such probationer a fee
17 that is imposed with respect to such collection.

18 “(2) PAY-ONLY PROBATIONER DEFINED.—The
19 term ‘pay-only probationer’ means an individual who
20 is placed on probation due to the failure of the indi-
21 vidual to pay any part of a fine or fee imposed by
22 a State or local court.”.

23 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
24 by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to grants
25 made in or after the fiscal year which begins after
26 the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 522(a) of the Omni-
3 bus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
4 U.S.C. 3766b(a)) is amended—

5 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “and” at
6 the end;

7 (B) by redesignating paragraph (5) as
8 paragraph (6); and

9 (C) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
10 following:

11 “(5) for the State and each unit of local govern-
12 ment in the State for such year, a list of the persons
13 with which such State or unit of local government
14 had a contract under which the person assisted in
15 administering a probation ordered by a State or
16 local court during such year and, for each such per-
17 son—

18 “(A) the amount payable by the State or
19 unit of local government to such person for
20 such assistance during such year; and

21 “(B) whether the person collected a fee
22 from a pay-only probationer (as such term is
23 defined in section 501(h)(2)) with respect to
24 such assistance; and”.

1 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
2 by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to reports
3 submitted for years beginning after the date of the
4 enactment of this Act.

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