

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 829

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 4, 2017

Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

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## AN ACT

To reauthorize the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program, the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program, and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant program, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “AFG and SAFER Pro-  
3 gram Reauthorization Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF ASSISTANCE TO FIRE-**  
5 **FIGHTERS GRANTS PROGRAM AND THE FIRE**  
6 **PREVENTION AND SAFETY GRANTS PRO-**  
7 **GRAM.**

8 (a) **REPEAL OF SUNSET.**—Section 33 of the Federal  
9 Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C.  
10 2229) is amended by striking subsection (r).

11 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Sub-  
12 section (q)(1)(B) of such section is amended by striking  
13 “2017” and inserting “2023”.

14 (c) **AUTHORIZATION FOR CERTAIN TRAINING UNDER**  
15 **ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANTS PROGRAM.**—  
16 Subsection (c)(3) of such section is amended by adding  
17 at the end the following:

18 “(N) To provide specialized training to  
19 firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical  
20 service workers, and other first responders to  
21 recognize individuals who have mental illness  
22 and how to properly intervene with individuals  
23 with mental illness, including strategies for  
24 verbal de-escalation of crisis.”.

1 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE**  
2 **FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT**  
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 (a) **REPEAL OF SUNSET.**—Section 34 of the Federal  
5 Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C.  
6 2229a) is amended by striking subsection (k).

7 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—Sub-  
8 section (j)(1)(I) of such section is amended, in the matter  
9 before clause (i), by striking “2017” and inserting  
10 “2023”.

11 (c) **MODIFICATION OF APPLICATION REQUIRE-**  
12 **MENTS.**—Subsection (b)(3)(B) of such section is amended  
13 by striking “of subsection (a)(1)(B)(ii) and (F)” and in-  
14 serting “of subsection (a)(1)(F)”.

15 (d) **MODIFICATION OF LIMITATION.**—Subsection  
16 (c)(2) of such section is amended by striking “prior to No-  
17 vember 24, 2003” and inserting “prior to the date of the  
18 application for the grant”.

19 (e) **MODIFICATION OF WAIVER AUTHORITY.**—Sub-  
20 section (d)(1)(B) of such section is amended by striking  
21 “subsection (a)(1)(E) or subsection (c)(2)” and inserting  
22 “subsection (a)(1)(E), (c)(2), or (c)(4)”.

23 (f) **REPEAL OF AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN USE OF**  
24 **GRANT AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED TO ASSISTANCE TO**  
25 **FIREFIGHTERS GRANTS PROGRAM.**—Subsection (a)(1)(B)

1 of such section is amended by striking “and to provide”  
 2 and all that follows through “of crises”.

3 (g) EXPANSION OF STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE  
 4 AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM.—Sub-  
 5 section (a)(1)(B) of such section, as amended by sub-  
 6 section (f), is further amended by inserting “or to change  
 7 the status of part-time or paid-on-call (as defined in sec-  
 8 tion 33(a)) firefighters to full-time firefighters” after  
 9 “firefighters”.

10 **SEC. 4. TRAINING ON ADMINISTRATION OF FIRE GRANT**  
 11 **PROGRAMS.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal  
 13 Emergency Management Agency, acting through the Ad-  
 14 ministrator of the United States Fire Administration, may  
 15 develop and make widely available an electronic, online  
 16 training course for members of the fire and emergency re-  
 17 sponse community on matters relating to the administra-  
 18 tion of grants under sections 33 and 34 of the Federal  
 19 Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229  
 20 and 2229a).

21 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The Administrator of the Fed-  
 22 eral Emergency Management Agency shall ensure that  
 23 any training developed and made available under sub-  
 24 section (a) is—

1 (1) tailored to the financial and time con-  
2 straints of members of the fire and emergency re-  
3 sponse community; and

4 (2) accessible to all individuals in the career,  
5 combination, paid-on-call, and volunteer fire and  
6 emergency response community.

7 **SEC. 5. FRAMEWORK FOR OVERSIGHT AND MONITORING**  
8 **OF THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS**  
9 **GRANTS PROGRAM, THE FIRE PREVENTION**  
10 **AND SAFETY GRANTS PROGRAM, AND THE**  
11 **STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMER-**  
12 **GENCY RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM.**

13 (a) FRAMEWORK.—Not later than 90 days after the  
14 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of  
15 the Federal Emergency Management Agency, acting  
16 through the Administrator of the United States Fire Ad-  
17 ministration, shall develop and implement a grant moni-  
18 toring and oversight framework to mitigate and minimize  
19 risks of fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement relating  
20 to the grants programs under sections 33 and 34 of the  
21 Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15  
22 U.S.C. 2229 and 2229a).

23 (b) ELEMENTS.—The framework required by sub-  
24 section (a) shall include the following:

1           (1) Developing standardized guidance and  
2 training for all participants in the grant programs  
3 described in subsection (a).

4           (2) Conduct of regular risk assessments.

5           (3) Conducting desk reviews and site visits.

6           (4) Enforcement actions to recoup potential  
7 questionable costs of grant recipients.

8           (5) Such other oversight and monitoring tools  
9 as the Administrator of the Federal Emergency  
10 Management Agency considers necessary to mitigate  
11 and minimize fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanage-  
12 ment relating to the grant programs described in  
13 subsection (a).

Passed the Senate August 2, 2017.

Attest:

JULIE E. ADAMS,

*Secretary.*