

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4177

To establish a Gun Safety Board, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 9, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a Gun Safety Board, 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 “Gun Safety Board and
5 Research Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. GUN SAFETY BOARD.**

7 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Health and
8 Human Services shall, not later than 1 year after the date
9 of enactment of this Act, establish a board to be known
10 as the Gun Safety Board.

11 (b) **DUTIES.**—The Gun Safety Board shall—

1 (1) not later than 2 years after the date of en-
2 actment of this Act, establish a program that pro-
3 vides grants that recipients shall use to—

4 (A) conduct original research about fire-
5 arm violence reduction (including research
6 about topics identified for additional research
7 by the Gun Safety Board under paragraph
8 (2)(B)); and

9 (B) to educate members of the public
10 about—

11 (i) causes and effects of firearm vio-
12 lence; and

13 (ii) ways to reduce the risk of harm
14 from firearm violence;

15 (2) conduct original research about firearm vio-
16 lence reduction; and

17 (3) on an ongoing basis, publish in the Federal
18 Register and on a public website of the Department
19 of Health and Human Services the following:

20 (A) Policy recommendations for potential
21 Federal, State, and local action based on avail-
22 able scientific research about firearm violence
23 reduction.

24 (B) A list of subject areas related to fire-
25 arm violence reduction that the Gun Safety

1 Board finds would benefit from additional sci-
2 entific research.

3 (C) The Firearm Safety Board's findings
4 about the efficacy of existing State and Federal
5 laws intended to reduce firearm violence, and
6 the expected efficacy of proposed State and
7 Federal legislation intended to reduce firearm
8 violence, in reducing any of the following:

9 (i) Gun assaults.

10 (ii) Gun robberies.

11 (iii) Threats with a gun.

12 (iv) Shootings.

13 (v) Mass shootings.

14 (vi) Deaths caused by firearms.

15 (vii) Injuries caused by firearms.

16 (viii) Health care-related expenditures
17 (including lost days of work and other indi-
18 rect expenditures) for victims of firearm-
19 caused injuries.

20 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

21 (1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Gun
22 Safety Board shall be composed of 17 members ap-
23 pointed by the Secretary of Health and Human
24 Services.

1 (2) COMPOSITION.—The members shall in-
2 clude—

3 (A) at least 1 member with expertise in
4 law enforcement;

5 (B) at least 1 member with expertise in
6 public health;

7 (C) at least 1 member with expertise in
8 firearm violence reduction research;

9 (D) at least 1 member with expertise in
10 medicine;

11 (E) at least 1 member with a background
12 in firearm manufacturing, firearm sales, profes-
13 sional firearm use, or recreational firearm use;

14 (F) at least 1 member representing victims
15 of firearm violence;

16 (G) at least 1 member representing non-
17 profit organizations that advocate for firearm
18 violence reduction; and

19 (H) at least 1 member from each of the
20 following:

21 (i) The National Institutes of Health.

22 (ii) The Centers for Disease Control
23 and Prevention.

24 (iii) The United States Consumer
25 Product Safety Commission.

1 (iv) The Federal Bureau of Investiga-
2 tion.

3 (v) The Department of Health and
4 Human Services.

5 (vi) The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
6 Firearms and Explosives within the De-
7 partment of Justice.

8 (vii) The Office of Juvenile Justice
9 and Delinquency Prevention within the De-
10 partment of Justice.

11 (viii) The Bureau of Justice Assist-
12 ance within the Department of Justice.

13 (ix) The Office for Victims of Crime
14 within the Department of Justice.

15 (x) The Office on Violence Against
16 Women within the Department of Justice.

17 (xi) The National Institute of Justice
18 within the Department of Justice.

19 (d) TERMS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
21 graph (2), each member shall be appointed for a
22 term of 4 years.

23 (2) TERMS OF INITIAL APPOINTEES.—As des-
24 ignated by the Secretary of Health and Human

1 Services at the time of appointment, of the members
2 first appointed—

3 (A) three shall be appointed for a term of
4 4 years;

5 (B) two shall be appointed for a term of 3
6 years;

7 (C) two shall be appointed for a term of 2
8 years; and

9 (D) two shall be appointed for a term of
10 1 year.

11 (3) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed to fill
12 a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the
13 term for which the member's predecessor was ap-
14 pointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of
15 that term. A vacancy shall be filled in the manner
16 in which the original appointment was made.

17 (e) BASIC PAY.—Members shall be paid at a rate set
18 by the Secretary of Health and Human Services that is
19 consistent with title 5, United States Code.

20 (f) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member shall receive
21 travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence,
22 in accordance with applicable provisions under subchapter
23 I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

1 (g) CHAIR.—The Secretary of Health and Human
2 Services shall designate one member to serve as chair of
3 the Firearm Safety Board.

4 (h) VICE CHAIR.—The members of the Gun Safety
5 Board shall elect one member to serve as vice chair of the
6 Firearm Safety Board.

7 (i) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet at least once
8 each month at the call of the chair.

9 (j) STAFF.—The chair may appoint and, consistent
10 with title 5, United States Code, fix the pay of additional
11 personnel as the chair considers appropriate.

12 (k) FIREARM.—For the purposes of this Act, the
13 term “firearm” shall have the meaning given the term in
14 section 921 of title 18, United States Code.

15 (l) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
16 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
17 \$25,000,000 for each fiscal year beginning after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act.

○