

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4799

To require State and local law enforcement agencies to submit information about law enforcement investigations to the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 22, 2019

Mr. VEASEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To require State and local law enforcement agencies to submit information about law enforcement investigations to the Attorney General, 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 “Preservation of Public  
5 Evidence Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT INFORMATION ABOUT**  
2 **INVESTIGATIONS TO THE ATTORNEY GEN-**  
3 **ERAL.**

4 (a) **REQUIREMENT.**—A State receiving any amount  
5 under a grant program covered by section 3(a) shall re-  
6 quire each law enforcement agency of that State, and of  
7 each unit of local government of that State, to submit to  
8 the Attorney General, for any incident being investigated  
9 by such law enforcement agency wherein a person was in-  
10 jured or killed by a law enforcement officer or while in  
11 the custody of a law enforcement agency, copies or records  
12 of any of the following that pertains to the incident:

13 (1) Any record or information.

14 (2) Any item of evidence.

15 (3) Any photographs.

16 (4) Any videos, including footage from dash-  
17 board cameras and body-worn cameras.

18 (5) Any witness statements.

19 (6) Any other tangible documents.

20 (b) **PUBLICATION.**—The Attorney General—

21 (1) shall preserve materials submitted under  
22 subsection (a); and

23 (2) may, at the request of an attorney, a court,  
24 or such other person as may be deemed appropriate  
25 by the Attorney General, publish such materials or

1 descriptions thereof, subject to any applicable limita-  
2 tion under law.

3 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL FUNDS.**

4 (a) COVERED PROGRAMS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this Act, a  
6 grant program is covered by this section if—

7 (A) the program is carried out by or under  
8 the authority of the Attorney General; and

9 (B) the program provides amounts to  
10 States for law enforcement purposes.

11 (2) LIST.—For each fiscal year after the date  
12 of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall  
13 prepare a list identifying each program that meets  
14 the criteria of paragraph (1) and provide that list to  
15 each State.

16 (b) COMPLIANCE.—For each fiscal year after the  
17 date of enactment of this Act, any amount that a State  
18 would otherwise receive for that fiscal year under a grant  
19 program covered by this section shall be reduced by 10  
20 percent, unless the chief executive of the State submits  
21 to the Attorney General—

22 (1) a certification that each law enforcement  
23 agency of the State, and of each unit of local govern-  
24 ment of the State, is in compliance with the require-  
25 ments of section 2; or

1           (2) an assurance that not less than 5 percent  
2           of such amount shall be used only for the purpose  
3           of enabling each law enforcement agency of the  
4           State, and of each unit of local government of the  
5           State to comply with the requirements of section 2,  
6           so as to ensure that a certification under paragraph  
7           (1) may be submitted not later than 90 days after  
8           such assurance.

9           (c) REPORT ON NONCOMPLIANCE.—Not later than  
10          the last day of each fiscal year after the date of enactment  
11          of this Act, the Attorney General shall publish a report  
12          listing each State wherein a law enforcement agency of  
13          the State, or of a unit of local government of the State,  
14          has not complied with the requirements of section 2 for  
15          that fiscal year.

16          (d) REDISTRIBUTION OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts not  
17          allocated to a State under a program as the result of a  
18          reduction under subsection (b) shall be reallocated under  
19          such program to a State that is in compliance with this  
20          section, subject to the limitations under such program.

21          (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The first grants to which  
22          subsection (b) applies are grants for the fiscal year begin-  
23          ning October 1, 2020.

1 **SEC. 4. ENHANCED FUNDING FOR BODY CAMERA GRANTS.**

2       For fiscal year 2021, out of any money in the Treas-  
3 ury not otherwise appropriated, there is authorized to be  
4 appropriated an additional amount of \$10,000,000, to be  
5 used for grants under part Q of the Omnibus Crime Con-  
6 trol and Safe Streets Act of 1968, for the acquisition and  
7 use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers.

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