

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 608

To direct the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to develop and implement best practices for occupation-specific education for school resource officers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Attorney General and the Secretary of Education to develop and implement best practices for occupation-specific education for school resource officers.

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 “School Watch and Tac-
5 ties Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF BEST**
2 **PRACTICES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in con-
4 sultation with the Secretary of Education, shall—

5 (1) for the purpose of developing best practices
6 for occupation-specific education for school resource
7 officers, consult with—

8 (A) State educational agencies and local
9 educational agencies;

10 (B) State and local law enforcement agen-
11 cies;

12 (C) school resource officers;

13 (D) principals and other school leaders;

14 (E) school safety experts, including individ-
15 uals with expertise in tactical responses to secu-
16 rity concerns; and

17 (F) any other stakeholders determined to
18 be relevant by the Attorney General;

19 (2) not later than one year after the date of the
20 enactment of this Act, and based on the consultation
21 carried out under paragraph (1), develop and dis-
22 seminate best practices for any occupation-specific
23 education for school resource officers, including edu-
24 cation in tactical responses to active shooter inci-
25 dents and other security concerns; and

1 (3) publish the best practices developed under
2 paragraph (2) on a publicly accessible website of the
3 Department of Justice.

4 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER.—The term
6 “school resource officer” has the meaning given the
7 term in section 1709(4) of the Omnibus Crime Con-
8 trol and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C.
9 10389(4)).

10 (2) ESEA TERMS.—The terms “local edu-
11 cational agency”, “school leader”, and “State edu-
12 cational agency” have the meanings given the terms
13 in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary
14 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

15 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

16 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
17 ment of this Act, the Attorney General, in consultation
18 with the Secretary of Education, shall submit to Congress
19 a report that includes the best practices developed under
20 section 2.

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