To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to include certain reporting to the uniform crime reporting program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2024

Mr. BEYER (for himself and Mr. BACON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to include certain reporting to the uniform crime reporting program.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Reporting to Prevent Hate Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT TO CREDIBLY REPORT HATE CRIMES.

Section 505 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10156) is amended by adding at the end the following:
“(j) Evaluation for Reporting on Hate Crimes.—Beginning not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act and from the data acquired by the Attorney General in accordance with the Hate Crimes Statistics Act (34 U.S.C. 41305), the Attorney General shall establish a method of evaluating and use such method to evaluate whether a covered jurisdiction has credibly reporting hate crimes, including whether, for each year, a covered jurisdiction—

“(1) has not reported hate crime data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

“(2) has reported zero hate crime incidents to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“(k) Eligibility.—

“(1) in general.—A covered jurisdiction that is found not to have credibly reported hate crimes following an evaluation pursuant to subsection (j) shall not be eligible for an allocation under this section.

“(2) Exception.—A covered jurisdiction that is found not to have credibly reported hate crimes following an evaluation pursuant to subsection (j) shall not be subject to a penalty under paragraph (1) if the Attorney General certifies that the covered jurisdiction has conducted significant community
hate crime public education and awareness initiatives.

“(l) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each year the Attorney General shall publish on the internet website of the Department of Justice a report on the covered jurisdictions certified under subsection (k)(2).

“(m) SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY HATE CRIME PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS INITIATIVES.—The term ‘significant community hate crime public education and awareness initiatives’ means that a covered jurisdiction—

“(1) has—

“(A) made substantial progress towards comprehensive reporting hate crimes;

“(B) adopted a policy on identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes; and

“(C) developed a standardized system of collecting, analyzing, and reporting hate crimes to the National Incident-Based Reporting System of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

“(2) may—

“(A) establish a unit or liaison specialized in identifying, investigating, and reporting hate crimes and engaging in community relations functions related to preventing hate crimes; or
“(B) conduct an ongoing and regular public meetings or educational forums on the impact of hate crimes, services available to victims of hate crimes, and any relevant Federal, State, or local laws related to hate crimes.

“(n) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED JURISDICTION.—The term ‘covered jurisdiction’ means a unit of local government that has a requested a grant under this subpart and has a population of over 100,000 people.

“(2) HATE CRIME.—The term ‘hate crime’ means—

“(A) an act described in section 1(b)(1) of the Hate Crime Statistics Act ((34 U.S.C. 41305(1)(b)(1)); and

“(B) an act in violation of sections 241, 245, 247, or 249 of title 18, United States Code.”.