

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9390

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program with respect to 24/7 sobriety programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 20, 2024

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. BACON, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. BROWNLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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 Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program with respect to 24/7 sobriety programs, 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 “Supporting Opportuni-
5 ties to Build Everyday Responsibility Act of 2024” or the
6 “Sober Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Crimes attributed to alcohol abuse have
4 been estimated to cost the United States \$84 billion
5 annually.

6 (2) One in four Federal prisoners and nearly
7 one in three State prisoners reported drinking alco-
8 hol at the time of the offense that led to their incar-
9 ceration.

10 (3) A 24/7 sobriety program is intended to help
11 people with substance use disorders to achieve long
12 term sobriety. It complements ignition interlock de-
13 vices and should be used in tandem with ignition
14 interlock devices that protect public safety.

15 (4) In South Dakota a \$400,000 investment in
16 a statewide 24/7 sobriety program led to at least
17 \$28 million in savings—\$70 saved for every dollar
18 spent.

19 (5) Participants in Montana’s 24/7 sobriety
20 program saw an 80 percent reduction in the prob-
21 ability of rearrest for a DUI.

22 (6) A 24/7 sobriety program should be imple-
23 mented along with effective screening and assess-
24 ment to ensure effective identification of individuals
25 with substance use disorders.

1 (7) 24/7 sobriety programs are not a substitute
2 for criminal investigations or prosecutions.

3 (8) 24/7 sobriety programs should provide an
4 opportunity for victim input when determining
5 whether an individual qualifies for the program.

6 (9) Input from Federal, State, or local law en-
7 forcement and prosecutors should be considered
8 when potentially admitting an individual into a 24/
9 7 sobriety program.

10 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM FOR 24/7 SOBRIETY PROGRAMS.**

11 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
12 the date of the enactment of this act, the Secretary of
13 Transportation shall establish a grant program (in this
14 Act referred to as the “Program”) to distribute funding
15 for state, local, and tribal 24/7 sobriety programs.

16 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the Pro-
17 gram, the Secretary may award a grant to an eligible re-
18 cipient that submits an application for the Program.

19 (c) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Grants awarded under the
21 Program may be awarded to a State, Tribal govern-
22 ment, or an agency, office, or a group of such agen-
23 cies or offices of the State or Tribal government for
24 the purpose of administering an eligible project
25 under subsection (e).

1 (2) SUBGRANT.—An eligible recipient awarded
2 a grant under the Program may distribute a
3 subgrant of funds awarded under the program to
4 any local government office or agency, or group of
5 offices or agencies, for the purpose of administering
6 an eligible project under subsection (e).

7 (d) PLAN.—To be eligible for a grant under the Pro-
8 gram, an eligible recipient shall submit to the Secretary
9 a plan for how the recipient would use the grant to main-
10 tain, expand, or implement a 24/7 sobriety program.

11 (e) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Grant funds awarded
12 under the Program shall be used to defray costs associated
13 with maintaining or expanding an existing 24/7 sobriety
14 program or implementing a new 24/7 sobriety program.

15 (f) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost
16 of a project assisted with a grant under the Program shall
17 not exceed 80 percent.

18 (g) REPORT BY ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—Not later
19 than 1 year after disbursement of funds to an eligible re-
20 cipient under the Program, such recipient shall submit to
21 the Secretary a report including, for each 24/7 sobriety
22 program funded by the recipient—

23 (1) information on eligibility and participation
24 in the 24/7 sobriety program;

1 (2) data with respect to the number of failed
2 tests by participants in the 24/7 sobriety program;

3 (3) data reflecting any criminal charges and
4 convictions among participants in the 24/7 sobriety
5 program during their participation in the program;

6 (4) data regarding programmatic outcomes, in-
7 cluding technical violations of the 24/7 sobriety pro-
8 gram and sanctions; and

9 (5) categorized expenses incurred for a 24/7 so-
10 briety program, including administrative expenses.

11 (h) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year
12 after receiving the grant recipient reports required under
13 subsection (g), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a
14 report containing data gathered from such grant recipient
15 reports.

16 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the Pro-
18 gram \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through
19 2029.

20 (j) 24/7 SOBRIETY PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this sec-
21 tion, the term “24/7 sobriety program” means a law or
22 program that authorizes a court or an agency with juris-
23 diction, as a condition of bond, sentence, probation, parole,
24 or work permit, to—

1 (1) require an individual to abstain from alcohol
2 or drugs for a period of time;

3 (2) require an individual to be subject to testing
4 for alcohol or drugs—

5 (A) at least twice per day at a testing loca-
6 tion; or

7 (B) by continuous transdermal alcohol
8 monitoring via an electronic monitoring device;
9 or

10 (3) impose an immediate sanction for a failed
11 a test for alcohol or drugs, including—

12 (A) a period of time in jail; or

13 (B) community service.

14 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

15 Section 405(d) of title 23, United States Code, is
16 amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (4)(B)—

18 (A) in clause (ix) by inserting “and” after
19 the semicolon;

20 (B) by striking clause (x); and

21 (C) by redesignating clause (xi) as clause
22 (x);

23 (2) in paragraph (6)—

24 (A) by striking subparagraph (B);

1 (B) by striking “and subparagraph (B)”
2 each place it appears;

3 (C) in subparagraph (E)—

4 (i) in the heading by striking “FUND-
5 ING” and all that follows through “Not
6 more than 12 percent” and inserting
7 “FUNDING FOR GRANTS TO STATES WITH
8 ALCOHOL-IGNITION INTERLOCK LAWS.—
9 Not more than 15 percent”; and

10 (ii) by striking clause (ii); and

11 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)
12 through (F) as subparagraphs (B) through (E),
13 respectively; and

14 (3) in paragraph (7)—

15 (A) by striking subparagraph (A); and

16 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
17 through (E) as subparagraphs (A) through (D),
18 respectively.

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