

IMPACT OF CRIME ON PUBLIC BUILDING USAGE ACT OF
2023

MARCH 6, 2024.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, from the Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 6261]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to whom
was referred the bill (H.R. 6261) to direct the Comptroller General
to conduct a review on the impact of crime on public building
usage, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports
favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the
bill do pass.

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PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION

The purpose of H.R. 6261, the *Impact of Crime on Public Building Usage Act of 2023*, is to direct the Comptroller General to conduct a review on the impact of crime on public building usage, and for other purposes.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

In recent years there have been a number of violent crimes perpetrated in and around public buildings. For example, on May 29, 2020, Federal Protective Service Officer David Patrick Underwood was murdered, and a second officer was injured at the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Oakland, California.¹

In July of 2020, Federal law enforcement arrested more than a dozen individuals for violent activities including assaults on law enforcement officers, destruction of property, looting, arson, and vandalism in and around the Hatfield Federal Courthouse in Portland, Oregon. These crimes resulted in the Courthouse sustaining extensive damage.² Additionally, safety concerns have impacted the usage of space in public buildings. For example, in August of 2023, the United States Department of Health and Human Services in a San Francisco Federal Building reportedly advised employees to work remotely because of safety concerns.³

HEARINGS

For the purposes of rule XIII, clause 3(c)(6)(A) of the 118th Congress, the following hearing was used to develop or consider H.R. 6261:

On July 13, 2023, the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure held a hearing entitled, “*When the Lights Are On but No One’s Home: An Examination of Federal Office Space Utilization.*” The hearing discussed Federal real estate, including office space utilization. The Subcommittee received testimony from Ms. Nina Albert, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, General Services Administration; and Mr. David Marroni, Acting Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office (GAO).

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND CONSIDERATION

H.R. 6261 was introduced in the United States House of Representatives on November 7, 2023, by Mrs. Chavez-DeRemer of Oregon and referred primarily to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, with additional referrals to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability and Committee on the Judiciary.

¹Press Release, DEPT OF JUSTICE, *Steven Carrillo Sentenced to 41 Years in Prison for Murder and Attempted Murder for Role in Drive-By Shooting at Federal Courthouse in Oakland*, (June 3, 2022), available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndca/pr/steven-carrillo-sentenced-41-years-prison-murder-and-attempted-murder-role-drive>.

²Press Release, DEPT OF JUSTICE, *18 Arrested, Facing Federal Charges After Weeknight Protests at Federal Courthouse in Portland*, (July 24, 2020), available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-or/pr/18-arrested-facing-federal-charges-after-weeknight-protests-federal-courthouse-portland>.

³Khaleda Rahman, *San Francisco Federal Workers Told to Work Remotely Over Drug-Crime Fears*, NEWSWEEK, (Aug. 15, 2023), available at <https://www.newsweek.com/san-francisco-federal-workers-told-work-remotely-drug-crime-1819791>.

Within the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, H.R. 6261 was referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management. The Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6261 on November 15, 2023.

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure considered H.R. 6261 on November 15, 2023, and ordered the measure to be reported to the House with a favorable recommendation, without amendment, by voice vote.

COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires each committee report to include the total number of votes cast for and against on each record vote on a motion to report and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, and the names of those members voting for and against.

No recorded votes were requested during consideration of H.R. 6261.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in this report.

NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives does not apply where a cost estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 402 of the *Congressional Budget Act of 1974* has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the report and is included in the report. Such a cost estimate is included in this report.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 402 of the *Congressional Budget Act of 1974*, the Committee has received the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 6261 from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

H.R. 6261, Impact of Crime on Public Building Usage Act of 2023			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on November 15, 2023			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2024	2024-2028	2024-2033
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2034?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

Within one year of enactment, H.R. 6261 would require the Government Accountability Office to report to the Congress on the relationship between different crime and safety issues and the use of public building. The bill also would have the General Services Administration report to the Congress (within the same time) on the effect crime has on the use of and the costs to operate and maintain public buildings.

Based on the cost of similar reports, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2024–2028 period. Any spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director, Congressional Budget Office.

PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the performance goal and objective of this legislation is to require review of the effect of crime on the usage of public buildings and submit to Congress a report on those impacts.

DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds that no provision of H.R. 6261 establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal government known to be duplicative of another Federal program, a program that was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139, or a program related to a program identified in the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED
TARIFF BENEFITS

In compliance with clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, this bill, as reported, contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of the rule XXI.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the *Unfunded Mandates Reform Act* (Public Law 104–4).

PREEMPTION CLARIFICATION

Section 423 of the *Congressional Budget Act of 1974* requires the report of any Committee on a bill or joint resolution to include a statement on the extent to which the bill or joint resolution is intended to preempt state, local, or tribal law. The Committee finds that H.R. 6261 does not preempt any state, local, or tribal law.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the definition of Section 5(b) of the appendix to Title 5, United States Code, are created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the *Congressional Accountability Act* (Public Law 104–1).

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Short title

This section provides the Act may be cited as the “Impact of Crime on Public Building Usage Act of 2023”.

Section 2. Report on impact of crime on public building usage

This section requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a review and submit a report to Congress on the effects of increased crime and safety concerns. This review will examine how these concerns, including drug use and homelessness, in urban areas impact Federal building usage and the effects of low office utilization rates on safety around Federal buildings. Additionally, GAO is directed to include in the report any exceptions to the Office of Management and Budget’s April 2023 memorandum, “Measuring, Monitoring, and Improving Organizational Health and Organizational Performance in the Context of Evolving Agency Work Environments” due to unsafe working conditions. Furthermore, GAO’s report will include any costs associated with safety issues impacting Federal buildings.

Section 3. Report on costs of crime around public buildings

This section directs the General Services Administration's Office of Inspector General to submit a report to Congress on the impacts on and costs associated with building operations related to crime and public safety in and around Federal buildings.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

As reported by the Committee, H.R. 6261 makes no changes in existing law.

COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515

Sam Graves
 Chairman

Jack Raddy, Staff Director

Rick Larsen
 Ranking Member

Katherine W. Dedrick, Democratic Staff Director

March 4, 2024

The Honorable James Comer
 Chairman
 Committee on Oversight and Accountability
 2157 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Comer:

I write to you concerning H.R. 6261, the *Impact of Crime on Public Building Usage Act of 2023*. The bill was referred primarily to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, with additional referrals to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability and the Committee on the Judiciary.

I ask that you allow the Committee on Oversight and Accountability to be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may be scheduled by the Majority Leader. This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for futural referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Committee on Oversight and Accountability represented on the conference committee. Finally, I would be pleased to include this letter and any response in the *Congressional Record* during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Sam Graves
 Chairman
 Committee on Transportation
 and Infrastructure

The Honorable James Comer
March 4, 2024
Page 2 of 2

cc: The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker
The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
The Honorable Jamie B. Raskin, Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and
Accountability
The Honorable Jason Smith, Parliamentarian

JAMES COMER, KENTUCKY
CHAIRMAN

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

JAMIE RASKIN, MARYLAND
RANKING MEMBER**Congress of the United States****House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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March 4, 2024

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves:

Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Oversight and Accountability. The Committee on Oversight and Accountability agrees to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6261, the Impact of Crime on Public Building Usage Act of 2023, so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor.

I agree that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 6261 at this time, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. The Committee on Oversight and Accountability should be appropriately consulted and involved on this or similar legislation as it moves forward. I support your effort to represent the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability on the conference committee if a conference on the bill becomes necessary.

As discussed, I appreciate your inclusion of a copy of our exchange of letters on this bill in the bill report filed by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and in the *Congressional Record* during House floor consideration thereof. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this bill and look forward to future opportunities to work together on matters of shared jurisdiction.

Sincerely,



James Comer
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Accountability

cc: The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker

House of Representatives

The Honorable Jamie B. Raskin, Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Accountability

The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Jason Smith, Parliamentarian
House of Representatives

JIM JORDAN, Ohio
CHAIRMAN

JERROLD NADLER, New York
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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March 4, 2024

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves:

I write regarding H.R. 6261, the Impact of Crime on Public Building Usage Act of 2023. Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that forgoing further consideration of this measure does not in any way alter the Committee's jurisdiction or waive any future jurisdictional claim over these provisions or their subject matter. We also reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees in the event of a conference with the Senate involving this measure or similar legislation.

I ask that you please include this letter in your committee's report to accompany this legislation or insert this letter in the *Congressional Record* during consideration of H.R. 6261 on the House floor. I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our committees have worked on this matter, and I look forward to working collaboratively in the future on matters of shared jurisdiction. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Jim Jordan
Chairman

cc:

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler, Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
The Honorable Jason Smith, Parliamentarian



Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Sam Graves
Chairman

Jack Raddy, Staff Director

Rick Larsen
Ranking Member

Katherine W. Dedrick, Democratic Staff Director

March 4, 2024

The Honorable Jim Jordan
Chairman
Committee on Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Jordan:

Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 6261, the *Impact of Crime on Public Building Usage Act of 2023*. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively to ensure that H.R. 6261 is considered expeditiously before the House of Representatives.

In response to your letter, I recognize that this bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary. I also acknowledge that the Committee on the Judiciary's decision to forgo consideration would not prejudice your Committee regarding the appointment of conferees, to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matter contained in the bill, or to similar legislation falling under your Committee's Rule X jurisdiction. In addition, should a conference on this bill become necessary, I would support your request to have members of the Committee on the Judiciary represented on the conference committee.

I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included our Committee report to accompany this legislation and in the *Congressional Record* during consideration of H.R. 6261 on the House floor. Thank you again, I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with you as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure

The Honorable Jim Jordan
March 4, 2024
Page 2 of 2

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The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation and
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