

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2752

To prioritize the hiring and training of veterans and retired law enforcement officers as school resource officers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 8, 2025

Mr. VAN DREW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Workforce, and Veterans' Affairs, 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 prioritize the hiring and training of veterans and retired law enforcement officers as school resource officers, 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 “Ensuring Safer
5 Schools Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. USES OF COPS GRANTS TO HIRE VETERANS AND**
2 **RETIRED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AS**
3 **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS.**

4 Section 1701(b)(13) of the Omnibus Crime Control
5 and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381(b)(12))
6 is amended by inserting “, and the hiring and training
7 of veterans and retired law enforcement officers to serve
8 as school resource officers” after “offenses”.

9 **SEC. 3. PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS**
10 **FOR CERTAIN GRANTS.**

11 Section 1701(c) of the Omnibus Crime Control and
12 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381(c)) is amend-
13 ed—

14 (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “or” at the
15 end;

16 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at
17 the end and inserting “; or”; and

18 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
19 lowing:

20 “(4) for hiring and training veterans and re-
21 tired law enforcement officers as school resource of-
22 ficers.”.

23 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

24 Section 1701(d) of the Omnibus Crime Control and
25 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381(d)(3)) is
26 amended by inserting after paragraph (3):

1 “(4) MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING AND TRAIN-
 2 ING.—The Attorney General may provide technical
 3 assistance to States, units of local government, In-
 4 dian tribal governments, and to other public and pri-
 5 vate entities using funds under this section for pur-
 6 poses described in subsection (b)(13) to provide
 7 school resource officers with an annual mental
 8 health screening and an annual training on tactics
 9 and response.”.

10 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

11 Section 1709(4) of the Omnibus Crime Control and
 12 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10389(4)) is amend-
 13 ed—

14 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
 15 by inserting “, veteran, or retired law enforcement
 16 officer” after “career law enforcement officer”;

17 (2) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at
 18 the end;

19 (3) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period
 20 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

21 (4) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the fol-
 22 lowing:

23 “(H) to meet at least annually with stu-
 24 dents in order to increase familiarity between

1 students and the officer and to foster commu-
2 nity engagement.”.

3 **SEC. 6. COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
4 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall coordinate
6 with recipients of grants under part Q of title I of the
7 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
8 U.S.C. 10381 et seq.) to connect veterans seeking to serve
9 as school resource officers (as such term is defined in sec-
10 tion 1709 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets
11 Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 1038)) with local law enforcement
12 agencies participating in school-based partnerships de-
13 scribed in section 1701(b)(12) of the Omnibus Crime Con-
14 trol and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C.
15 10381(b)(12)).

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