

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5725

To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant to support communities transitioning to health-centered responses for mental health-related emergencies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 2025

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 to establish a grant to support communities transitioning to health-centered responses for mental health-related emergencies.

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 “Mental Health Crisis
5 Response Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CRISIS RESPONSE ALTER-**
2 **NATIVES.**

3 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 270 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney Gen-
5 eral, in partnership with the Assistant Secretary for Men-
6 tal Health and Substance Use, shall establish a grant pro-
7 gram, to award, on a competitive basis, grants to eligible
8 jurisdictions for the purposes of implementing or expand-
9 ing health-centered crisis response strategies for individ-
10 uals experiencing behavioral health emergencies.

11 (b) **ELIGIBLE JURISDICTIONS.**—A jurisdiction shall
12 be eligible for a grant under subsection (a) if the State,
13 Tribal, or local government manages emergency services
14 in response to any incident, including law enforcement and
15 emergency medical services.

16 (c) **APPLICATION.**—An eligible jurisdiction seeking a
17 grant under this section shall submit an application to the
18 Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and con-
19 taining such information as the Attorney General may rea-
20 sonably require.

21 (d) **USE OF FUNDS.**—A grant awarded under sub-
22 section (a) may be used by an eligible jurisdiction to:

23 (1) Embed mental health professionals into 911
24 dispatch and call triage systems.

1 (2) Develop alternative 911 call routing to 988
2 or other mental health or substance abuse crisis hot-
3 line service.

4 (3) Form partnerships between State or local
5 emergency services and State or local 911 dispatch
6 centers to ensure a streamlined handoff without re-
7 quiring the caller to hangup and dial 988 or other
8 mental health or substance abuse crisis hotline serv-
9 ice.

10 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
11 shall be construed to—

12 (1) require a State, Tribe, or local government
13 to remove law enforcement from an emergency re-
14 sponse model; or

15 (2) preempt a State law regarding involuntary
16 psychiatric holds, involuntary treatment, or any
17 emergency authority that would hinder public safety.

18 (f) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—An eligible jurisdic-
19 tion awarded a grant under this section shall submit an
20 annual report on—

21 (1) the amount of time it takes for a response
22 to an incident;

23 (2) use of force by law enforcement or any
24 other individual responding to an incident where an
25 individual requires assistance;

1 (3) diversion rates; and

2 (4) any other information requested by the At-
3 torney General or Assistant Secretary for Mental
4 Health and Substance Use.

5 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
6 are authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 for each
7 of fiscal years 2027 through 2031 to carry out this sec-
8 tion.

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