

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7125

To prohibit charging for access to certain camera video footage.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 15, 2026

Ms. TLAIB (for herself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mrs. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. SIMON, Ms. STANSBURY, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To prohibit charging for access to certain camera video
footage.

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 “Stop Body Camera
5 Paywalls Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROVIDING ACCESS TO CERTAIN CAMERA FOOTAGE**

7 **FREE OF CHARGE.**

8 (a) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN
9 GRANTS.—An application by a State or a unit of local gov-

1 ernment for funding under a covered program shall in-
2 clude a certification that such State, unit of local govern-
3 ment, and any law enforcement agency to which the State
4 or unit of local government will distribute funds, does not
5 impose any financial or monetary cost on any member of
6 the public seeking to view, access, or obtain a copy of cer-
7 tain camera video footage recorded by a law enforcement
8 officer, or impose any other fees related to obtaining cer-
9 tain camera footage, including court fees.

10 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—A State or unit of local govern-
11 ment shall be ineligible for funding under a covered pro-
12 gram without providing the certification described under
13 subsection (a).

14 (c) COVERED PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this section:

15 (1) BYRNE GRANT PROGRAM.—The term
16 “Byrne grant program” means any grant program
17 under subpart 1 of part E of title I of the Omnibus
18 Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
19 U.S.C. 10151 et seq.), without regard to whether
20 the funds are characterized as being made available
21 under the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local
22 Law Enforcement Assistance Programs, the Local
23 Government Law Enforcement Block Grants Pro-
24 gram, the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assist-
25 ance Grant Program, or otherwise.

1 (2) CERTAIN CAMERA VIDEO FOOTAGE.—The
2 term “certain camera video footage” includes—

3 (A) body camera video footage recorded by
4 a law enforcement officer;

5 (B) dash camera video footage recorded by
6 a law enforcement officer;

7 (C) jail, prison, or correctional facility sur-
8 veillance footage; or

9 (D) any other relevant law enforcement
10 agency footage.

11 (3) COPS GRANT PROGRAM.—The term “COPS
12 grant program” means the grant program author-
13 ized under section 1701 of title I of the Omnibus
14 Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
15 U.S.C. 10381).

16 (4) COVERED PROGRAM.—The term “covered
17 program” means any program or activity funded in
18 whole or in part with funds made available under—

19 (A) a Byrne grant program; and

20 (B) the COPS grant program.

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