

Calendar No. 82

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1316

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 7, 2025

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COONS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. OSSOFF, Ms. HIRONO, and Mrs. MOODY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

MAY 20, 2025

Reported by Mr. GRASSLEY, with an amendment

[Omit the part struck through]

A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide that COPS grant funds may be used for local law enforcement recruits to attend schools or academies if the recruits agree to serve in precincts of law enforcement agencies in their communities.

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 “Strong Communities
 5 Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. STRONG COMMUNITIES PROGRAM.**

7 Section 1701 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control
 8 and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381) is amend-
 9 ed by adding at the end the following:

10 “(q) COPS STRONG COMMUNITIES PROGRAM.—

11 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

12 “(A) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligi-
 13 ble entity’ means—

14 “(i) an institution of higher education,
 15 as defined in section 101 of the Higher
 16 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001),
 17 that, in coordination or through an agree-
 18 ment with a local law enforcement agency,
 19 offers a law enforcement training program;
 20 or

21 “(ii) a local law enforcement agency
 22 that offers a law enforcement training pro-
 23 gram.

24 “(B) LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGEN-
 25 CY.—The term ‘local law enforcement agency’

1 means an agency of a State, unit of local gov-
2 ernment, or Indian Tribe that is authorized by
3 law or by a government agency to engage in or
4 supervise the prevention, detection, investiga-
5 tion, or prosecution of any violation of criminal
6 law.

7 “(2) GRANTS.—The Attorney General may use
8 amounts otherwise appropriated to carry out this
9 section for a fiscal year (beginning with fiscal year
10 2025) to make competitive grants to local law en-
11 forcement agencies to be used for officers and re-
12 cruits to attend law enforcement training programs
13 at eligible entities if the officers and recruits agree
14 to serve in law enforcement agencies in their com-
15 munities.

16 “(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant
17 through a local law enforcement agency under this
18 subsection, each officer or recruit described in para-
19 graph (2) shall—

20 “(A) serve as a full-time law enforcement
21 officer for a total of not fewer than 4 years dur-
22 ing the 8-year period beginning on the date on
23 which the officer or recruit completes a law en-
24 forcement training program for which the offi-
25 cer or recruit receives benefits;

1 “(B) complete the service described in sub-
2 paragraph (A) in a local law enforcement agen-
3 cy located within—

4 “(i) 7 miles of the residence of the of-
5 ficer or recruit where the officer or recruit
6 has resided for not fewer than 5 years; or

7 “(ii) if the officer or recruit resides in
8 a county with fewer than 150,000 resi-
9 dents, within 20 miles of the residence of
10 the officer or recruit where the officer or
11 recruit has resided for not fewer than 5
12 years; and

13 “(C) submit to the eligible entity providing
14 a law enforcement training program to the offi-
15 cer or recruit evidence of employment of the of-
16 ficer or recruit in the form of a certification by
17 the chief administrative officer of the local law
18 enforcement agency where the officer or recruit
19 is employed.

20 “(4) REPAYMENT.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If an officer or recruit
22 does not complete the service described in para-
23 graph (3), the officer or recruit shall submit to
24 the local law enforcement agency an amount
25 equal to any benefits the officer or recruit re-

1 ceived through the local law enforcement agency
2 under this subsection.

3 “(B) REGULATIONS.—The Attorney Gen-
4 eral shall promulgate regulations that establish
5 categories of extenuating circumstances under
6 which an officer or recruit may be excused from
7 repayment under subparagraph (A).”.

8 **SEC. 3. TRANSPARENCY.**

9 Not less frequently than annually, the Attorney Gen-
10 eral shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of
11 the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
12 House of Representatives a report that details, with re-
13 spect to recipients of grants under section 1701(q) of title
14 I of the Omnibus ~~and~~ Crime Control and Safe Streets Act
15 of 1968, as added by section 2—

16 (1) during the 1-year period preceding the date
17 of the report—

18 (A) the number and location of those re-
19 cipients; and

20 (B) the number of law enforcement officers
21 and recruits each recipient intends to send to
22 law enforcement training programs at eligible
23 entities (as defined in paragraph (1) of such
24 section 1701(q)) with amounts from the grant;
25 and

1 (2) during the period between the date of enact-
2 ment of this Act and the date of the report—

3 (A) the number of law enforcement officers
4 or recruits who attended the training described
5 in paragraph (1)(B) with amounts from the
6 grant and returned from the training as em-
7 ployees of the recipient; and

8 (B) the number of law enforcement officers
9 or recruits described in subparagraph (A) who
10 remain an employee of the recipient.

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