

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2947

To establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Non-profit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. KELLY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. ROSEN, and Ms. SLOTKIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland Security, 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 “Pray Safe Act of  
5   2025”.

### 6   **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

1           (1) CLEARINGHOUSE.—The term “Clearing-  
2       house” means the Federal Clearinghouse on Safety  
3       and Security Best Practices for Nonprofit Organiza-  
4       tions, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of  
5       Worship established under section 3(a).

6           (2) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”  
7       means the Department of Homeland Security.

8           (3) FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION.—The term  
9       “faith-based organization” means a group, center, or  
10      nongovernmental organization with a religious, ideo-  
11      logical, or spiritual motivation, character, affiliation,  
12      or purpose that meets the definition of nonprofit or-  
13      ganization.

14          (4) HOUSE OF WORSHIP.—The term “house of  
15      worship” means a place or building, including a syn-  
16      agogue, mosque, temple, and church, in which  
17      congregants practice their religious or spiritual be-  
18      liefs.

19          (5) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term  
20      “nonprofit organization” means an organization—

21              (A) of the type described in subsection  
22              (c)(3) of section 501 of the Internal Revenue  
23              Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under  
24              subsection (a) of such section; and

1 (B) determined to be at risk of a terrorist  
 2 attack or other threat by the Secretary.

3 (6) SAFETY AND SECURITY.—The term “safety  
 4 and security” means prevention of, protection  
 5 against, or recovery from threats and incidents, in-  
 6 cluding natural disasters, manmade disasters, or ter-  
 7 rorist attacks.

8 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
 9 the Secretary of Homeland Security.

10 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON SAFETY AND SECU-**  
 11 **RITY BEST PRACTICES FOR NONPROFIT OR-**  
 12 **GANIZATIONS, FAITH-BASED ORGANIZA-**  
 13 **TIONS, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP.**

14 (a) FEDERAL CLEARINGHOUSE.—

15 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270  
 17 days after the date of enactment of this Act,  
 18 the Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney  
 19 General, the Executive Director of the White  
 20 House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood  
 21 Partnerships, and the head of any other agency  
 22 the Secretary determines appropriate, shall es-  
 23 tablish within the Department a Federal Clear-  
 24 inghouse on Safety and Security Best Practices

1 for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Orga-  
2 nizations, and Houses of Worship.

3 (B) PURPOSE.—The Clearinghouse shall  
4 be the primary resource of the Federal Govern-  
5 ment to—

6 (i) educate and publish online best  
7 practices and recommendations for safety  
8 and security for nonprofit organizations,  
9 including faith-based organizations, and  
10 houses of worship; and

11 (ii) provide information relating to  
12 Federal grant programs available to non-  
13 profit organizations, including faith-based  
14 organizations, and houses of worship.

15 (C) PERSONNEL.—

16 (i) ASSIGNMENTS.—The Clearing-  
17 house shall be assigned such personnel and  
18 resources as the Secretary considers appro-  
19 priate to carry out this subsection.

20 (ii) DETAILEES.—The Secretary may  
21 coordinate detailees on a reimbursable or a  
22 nonreimbursable basis as required for the  
23 Clearinghouse.

24 (iii) DESIGNATED POINT OF CON-  
25 TACT.—

1 (I) IN GENERAL.—There shall be  
2 not fewer than 1 employee assigned or  
3 detailed to the Clearinghouse who  
4 shall be the designated point of con-  
5 tact to provide information and assist-  
6 ance to nonprofit organizations, in-  
7 cluding faith-based organizations, and  
8 houses of worship, including assist-  
9 ance relating to the grant program es-  
10 tablished under subsection (c).

11 (II) CONTACT INFORMATION.—  
12 The contact information of the des-  
13 ignated point of contact under sub-  
14 clause (I) shall be made available on  
15 the website of the Clearinghouse.

16 (iv) QUALIFICATION.—To the max-  
17 imum extent possible, any personnel as-  
18 signed or detailed to the Clearinghouse  
19 under this subparagraph should be familiar  
20 with nonprofit organizations, including  
21 faith-based organizations, and houses of  
22 worship and with physical and online secu-  
23 rity measures to identify and prevent safe-  
24 ty and security risks.

25 (2) CLEARINGHOUSE CONTENTS.—

1 (A) EVIDENCE-BASED TIERS.—

2 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in  
3 consultation with the Attorney General, the  
4 Executive Director of the White House Of-  
5 fice of Faith-Based and Neighborhood  
6 Partnerships, and the head of any other  
7 agency the Secretary determines appro-  
8 priate, shall develop tiers for determining  
9 evidence-based best practices and rec-  
10 ommendations that demonstrate a signifi-  
11 cant effect on improving safety and secu-  
12 rity of nonprofit organizations, including  
13 faith-based organizations, and houses of  
14 worship.

15 (ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The tiers re-  
16 quired to be developed under clause (i)  
17 shall—

18 (I) prioritize—

19 (aa) strong evidence from  
20 not fewer than 1 well-designed  
21 and well-implemented experi-  
22 mental study; and

23 (bb) moderate evidence from  
24 not fewer than 1 well-designed

1 and well-implemented quasi-ex-  
2 perimental study; and

3 (II) consider promising evidence  
4 that demonstrates a rationale based  
5 on high-quality research findings or  
6 positive evaluations that the activity,  
7 strategy, or intervention is likely to  
8 improve and promote safety and secu-  
9 rity of nonprofit organizations, includ-  
10 ing faith-based organizations, and  
11 houses of worship.

12 (B) CRITERIA FOR BEST PRACTICES AND  
13 RECOMMENDATIONS.—The best practices and  
14 recommendations referred to in paragraph  
15 (1)(B)(i) of the Clearinghouse shall, at a min-  
16 imum—

17 (i) identify areas of concern for non-  
18 profit organizations, including faith-based  
19 organizations, and houses of worship, in-  
20 cluding event planning recommendations,  
21 checklists, facility hardening, tabletop exer-  
22 cise resources, and other resilience meas-  
23 ures;

24 (ii) involve comprehensive safety and  
25 security measures, including threat preven-

tion, preparedness, protection, mitigation,  
incident response, and recovery to improve  
the safety and security posture of non-  
profit organizations, including faith-based  
organizations, and houses of worship upon  
implementation;

(iii) involve comprehensive safety and  
security measures, including preparedness,  
protection, mitigation, incident response,  
and recovery to improve the resiliency of  
nonprofit organizations, including faith-  
based organizations, and houses of worship  
from threats and incidents, including nat-  
ural disasters, manmade disasters, or ter-  
rorist attacks or other threats;

(iv) include any evidence or research  
rationale supporting the determination of  
the Clearinghouse that the comprehensive  
safety and security measures under clauses  
(ii) and (iii) have been shown to have a  
significant effect on improving the safety  
and security of individuals who, at the time  
of any such threat or incident, are phys-  
ically located in the place or building of a  
nonprofit organization, including a faith-



1 based organization, or a house of worship,  
2 including—

3 (I) findings and data from pre-  
4 vious Federal, State, local, Tribal, ter-  
5 ritorial, private sector, and nongovern-  
6 mental organization research centers  
7 relating to the safety and security of  
8 nonprofit organizations, including  
9 faith-based organizations, and houses  
10 of worship, including from targeted vi-  
11 olence; and

12 (II) other supportive evidence or  
13 findings relied upon by the Clearing-  
14 house in determining best practices  
15 and recommendations to improve the  
16 safety and security posture of non-  
17 profit organizations, including faith-  
18 based organizations, and houses of  
19 worship upon implementation; and

20 (v) include an overview of the avail-  
21 able resources the Clearinghouse can pro-  
22 vide to nonprofit organizations and houses  
23 of worship.

24 (C) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—The  
25 Clearinghouse shall maintain and make avail-

1           able a comprehensive index of all Federal grant  
2           programs for which nonprofit organizations, in-  
3           cluding faith-based organizations, and houses of  
4           worship are eligible, which shall include the per-  
5           formance metrics the recipient will be required  
6           to provide for each grant.

7           (D) PAST RECOMMENDATIONS.—To the  
8           greatest extent practicable, the Clearinghouse  
9           shall identify and present, as appropriate, best  
10          practices and recommendations issued by Fed-  
11          eral, State, local, Tribal, territorial, private sec-  
12          tor, and nongovernmental organizations rel-  
13          evant to the safety and security of nonprofit or-  
14          ganizations, including faith-based organizations,  
15          and houses of worship.

16          (E) EXISTING PLATFORM.—The Secretary  
17          may establish and maintain the Clearinghouse  
18          on an online platform or a website that is in ex-  
19          istence as of the date of enactment of this Act.

20          (3) ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—The Sec-  
21          retary may produce and publish materials on the  
22          Clearinghouse to assist and train nonprofit organiza-  
23          tions, including faith-based organizations, and  
24          houses of worship regarding the implementation of

1 the best practices and recommendations under this  
2 subsection.

3 (4) CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

5 (i) collect for the purpose of contin-  
6 uous improvement of the Clearinghouse—

7 (I) Clearinghouse data analytics;

8 (II) user feedback on the imple-  
9 mentation of resources, best practices,  
10 and recommendations identified by  
11 the Clearinghouse; and

12 (III) any evaluations conducted  
13 regarding implementation of such best  
14 practices and recommendations;

15 (ii) in coordination with the Faith-  
16 Based Security Advisory Council of the  
17 Department, the Department of Justice,  
18 the Executive Director of the White House  
19 Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood  
20 Partnerships, and any other agency the  
21 Secretary determines appropriate—

22 (I) assess and identify Clearing-  
23 house best practices and recommenda-  
24 tions for which there are no resources

1 available through Federal Government  
2 programs for implementation;

3 (II) provide feedback on the im-  
4 plementation of such best practices  
5 and recommendations; and

6 (III) propose additional best  
7 practices and recommendations for in-  
8 clusion in the Clearinghouse; and

9 (iii) not less frequently than annually,  
10 examine and update the Clearinghouse in  
11 accordance with—

12 (I) the information collected  
13 under clause (i); and

14 (II) the best practices and rec-  
15 ommendations proposed under clause  
16 (ii)(III).

17 (B) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later  
18 than 3 years after the date of enactment of this  
19 Act, and every 3 years thereafter during the pe-  
20 riod in which the Clearinghouse is in existence,  
21 the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report  
22 on the updates under subparagraph (A)(iii)  
23 made to the Clearinghouse during the preceding  
24 3-year period, which shall include a description

1 of any changes made pursuant thereto to the  
2 Clearinghouse.

3 (b) NOTIFICATION OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide  
5 to the individuals, Federal agencies, and committees  
6 specified in paragraph (2) written notification of the  
7 establishment of the Clearinghouse, including up-  
8 dates pertaining to grant programs identified under  
9 subsection (a)(2)(C).

10 (2) INDIVIDUALS, FEDERAL AGENCIES, AND  
11 COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The individuals, Federal  
12 entities, and committees specified in this paragraph  
13 are the following:

14 (A) Every State homeland security advisor.

15 (B) Every State department of homeland  
16 security.

17 (C) Other Federal agencies with grant pro-  
18 grams or initiatives that aid in the safety and  
19 security of nonprofit organizations, including  
20 faith-based organizations, and houses of wor-  
21 ship, as determined appropriate by the Sec-  
22 retary.

23 (D) Every Cyber Security Advisor.

24 (E) Every Protective Security Advisor.

1 (F) Every Federal Bureau of Investigation  
2 Joint Terrorism Task Force.

3 (G) Every Homeland Security Fusion Cen-  
4 ter.

5 (H) Every State or territorial Governor or  
6 other chief executive.

7 (I) The Committee on Homeland Security  
8 and Governmental Affairs and the Committee  
9 on the Judiciary of the Senate.

10 (J) The Committee on Homeland Security  
11 and the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
12 House of Representatives.

13 (c) FEDERAL GRANTS AND RESOURCES OVER-  
14 VIEW.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent practicable,  
16 the Secretary, when carrying out subsection  
17 (a)(2)(C), shall include a grants program overview  
18 on the website of the Clearinghouse that shall—

19 (A) be a location for all information re-  
20 garding Federal grant programs that are open  
21 to nonprofit organizations, including faith-based  
22 organizations, and houses of worship for the  
23 purposes of safety and security;

24 (B) directly link to each grant application  
25 and any applicable user guides;

1 (C) identify all safety and security home-  
2 land security assistance programs managed by  
3 the Department that may be used to implement  
4 best practices and recommendations of the  
5 Clearinghouse;

6 (D) concurrent with the application period  
7 for any grant identified under subsection  
8 (a)(2)(C), provide information related to the re-  
9 quired elements of grant applications to aid  
10 nonprofit organizations, including faith-based  
11 organizations, and houses of worship in meeting  
12 the eligibility criteria for Federal grants; and

13 (E) provide answers to frequently asked  
14 questions regarding the implementation of best  
15 practices and recommendations of the Clearing-  
16 house and best practices for applying for a  
17 grant identified under subsection (a)(2)(C).

18 (2) PROVISION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO  
19 FEDERAL GRANTS AND RESOURCES.—Each Federal  
20 agency notified under subsection (b) shall provide to  
21 the Secretary or other appropriate point of contact  
22 for the Clearinghouse for inclusion in the Clearing-  
23 house necessary information regarding any Federal  
24 grant programs or resources of the Federal agency

1 that are available for nonprofit organizations, includ-  
2 ing faith-based organizations, and houses of worship.

3 (3) STATE GRANTS AND RESOURCES.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—Any State notified  
5 under subsection (b) may provide to the Sec-  
6 retary or other appropriate point of contact for  
7 the Clearinghouse for inclusion in the Clearing-  
8 house necessary information regarding any  
9 grant programs or resources of the State avail-  
10 able for nonprofit organizations, including faith-  
11 based organizations, and houses of worship for  
12 the purposes of safety and security.

13 (B) IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES.—

14 The Clearinghouse shall, to the extent prac-  
15 ticable, identify for each State the following:

16 (i) Each State agency responsible for  
17 safety and security of nonprofit organiza-  
18 tions, including faith-based organizations,  
19 and houses of worship in the State, or any  
20 State that does not have such an agency  
21 designated.

22 (ii) Any grant program that may be  
23 used for the purposes of implementing best  
24 practices and recommendations of the  
25 Clearinghouse.



1 (iii) Any resources or programs, in-  
2 cluding community prevention or interven-  
3 tion efforts, that may be used to assist in  
4 targeted violence and terrorism prevention.

5 (d) OTHER RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall, on the  
6 website of the Clearinghouse, include a separate section  
7 for other resources that shall provide a centralized list of  
8 all available points of contact from which a nonprofit orga-  
9 nization, including a faith-based organization, or a house  
10 of worship may seek assistance in grant applications and  
11 in carrying out the best practices and recommendations  
12 of the Clearinghouse, including the following:

13 (1) A list of contact information to reach De-  
14 partment personnel to assist with grant-related ques-  
15 tions.

16 (2) The applicable Agency contact information  
17 to connect houses of worship with Protective Secu-  
18 rity Advisors.

19 (3) Contact information for all Department Fu-  
20 sion Centers, listed by State.

21 (4) Information on the “If you See Something  
22 Say Something Campaign” of the Department.

23 (5) Any other appropriate contacts.

1 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
2 tion may be construed to create, satisfy, or waive any re-  
3 quirement under Federal civil rights laws, including—

4 (1) title II of the Americans With Disabilities  
5 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131 et seq.); or

6 (2) title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42  
7 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.).

8 (f) SUNSET.—This Act shall cease to be effective on  
9 the date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of  
10 this Act.

11 **SEC. 4. GAO REPORT.**

12 The Comptroller General of the United States shall  
13 submit to Congress a report on the state of Federal grants  
14 devoted to safety and security for nonprofit organizations,  
15 including faith-based organizations, and houses of wor-  
16 ship, and an evaluation of the relevant programs and re-  
17 sources devoted to the safety and security of nonprofit or-  
18 ganizations, including faith-based organizations, and  
19 houses of worship as of the date of the report.

○