

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3235

AN ACT

To improve academic and social outcomes for youth and reduce both juvenile crime and the risk that youth will become victims of crime by providing productive activities conducted by law enforcement personnel during nonschool hours.

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To improve academic and social outcomes for youth and reduce both juvenile crime and the risk that youth will become victims of crime by providing productive activities conducted by law enforcement personnel during non-school hours.

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 “National Police Ath-
5 letic League Youth Enrichment Act of 2000”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) The goals of the Police Athletic League are
9 to—

10 (A) increase the academic success of youth
11 participants in PAL programs;

12 (B) promote a safe, healthy environment
13 for youth under the supervision of law enforce-
14 ment personnel where mutual trust and respect
15 can be built;

16 (C) increase school attendance by pro-
17 viding alternatives to suspensions and expul-
18 sions;

19 (D) reduce the juvenile crime rate in par-
20 ticipating designated communities and the num-
21 ber of police calls involving juveniles during
22 nonschool hours;

23 (E) provide youths with alternatives to
24 drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and gang activity;

1 (F) create positive communications and
2 interaction between youth and law enforcement
3 personnel; and

4 (G) prepare youth for the workplace.

5 (2) The Police Athletic League, during its 55-
6 year history as a national organization, has proven
7 to be a positive force in the communities it serves.

8 (3) The Police Athletic League is a network of
9 1,700 facilities serving over 3,000 communities.
10 There are 320 PAL chapters throughout the United
11 States, the Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth
12 of Puerto Rico, serving 1,500,000 youths, ages 5 to
13 18, nationwide.

14 (4) Based on PAL chapter demographics, ap-
15 proximately 82 percent of the youths who benefit
16 from PAL programs live in inner cities and urban
17 areas.

18 (5) PAL chapters are locally operated, volun-
19 teer-driven organizations. Although most PAL chap-
20 ters are sponsored by a law enforcement agency,
21 PAL chapters receive no direct funding from law en-
22 forcement agencies and are dependent in large part
23 on support from the private sector, such as individ-
24 uals, business leaders, corporations, and founda-
25 tions. PAL chapters have been exceptionally success-

1 ful in balancing public funds with private sector do-
2 nations and maximizing community involvement.

3 (6) Today's youth face far greater risks than
4 did their parents and grandparents. Law enforce-
5 ment statistics demonstrate that youth between the
6 ages of 12 and 17 are at risk of committing violent
7 acts and being victims of violent acts between the
8 hours of 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

9 (7) Greater numbers of students are dropping
10 out of school and failing in school, even though the
11 consequences of academic failure are more dire in
12 1999 than ever before.

13 (8) Many distressed areas in the United States
14 are still underserved by PAL chapters.

15 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

16 The purpose of this Act is to provide adequate re-
17 sources in the form of—

18 (1) assistance for the 320 established PAL
19 chapters to increase of services to the communities
20 they are serving; and

21 (2) seed money for the establishment of 250
22 (50 per year over a 5-year period) additional local
23 PAL chapters in public housing projects and other
24 distressed areas, including distressed areas with a

1 majority population of Native Americans, by not
2 later than fiscal year 2006.

3 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The
6 term “Assistant Attorney General” means the As-
7 sistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice
8 Programs of the Department of Justice.

9 (2) DISTRESSED AREA.—The term “distressed
10 area” means an urban, suburban, or rural area with
11 a high percentage of high-risk youth, as defined in
12 section 509A of the Public Health Service Act (42
13 U.S.C. 290aa–8(f)).

14 (3) PAL CHAPTER.—The term “PAL chapter”
15 means a chapter of a Police or Sheriff’s Athletic/Ac-
16 tivities League.

17 (4) POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE.—The term
18 “Police Athletic League” means the private, non-
19 profit, national representative organization for 320
20 Police or Sheriff’s Athletic/Activities Leagues
21 throughout the United States (including the Virgin
22 Islands and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico).

23 (5) PUBLIC HOUSING; PROJECT.—The terms
24 “public housing” and “project” have the meanings

1 given those terms in section 3(b) of the United
2 States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)).

3 **SEC. 5. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to appropriations, for
5 each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005, the Assistant At-
6 torney General shall award a grant to the Police Athletic
7 League for the purpose of establishing PAL chapters to
8 serve public housing projects and other distressed areas,
9 and expanding existing PAL chapters to serve additional
10 youths.

11 (b) APPLICATION.—

12 (1) SUBMISSION.—In order to be eligible to re-
13 ceive a grant under this section, the Police Athletic
14 League shall submit to the Assistant Attorney Gen-
15 eral an application, which shall include—

16 (A) a long-term strategy to establish 250
17 additional PAL chapters and detailed summary
18 of those areas in which new PAL chapters will
19 be established, or in which existing chapters will
20 be expanded to serve additional youths, during
21 the next fiscal year;

22 (B) a plan to ensure that there are a total
23 of not less than 570 PAL chapters in operation
24 before January 1, 2004;

1 (C) a certification that there will be appro-
2 priate coordination with those communities
3 where new PAL chapters will be located; and

4 (D) an explanation of the manner in which
5 new PAL chapters will operate without addi-
6 tional, direct Federal financial assistance once
7 assistance under this Act is discontinued.

8 (2) REVIEW.—The Assistant Attorney General
9 shall review and take action on an application sub-
10 mitted under paragraph (1) not later than 120 days
11 after the date of such submission.

12 **SEC. 6. USE OF FUNDS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—

14 (1) ASSISTANCE FOR NEW AND EXPANDED
15 CHAPTERS.—Amounts made available under a grant
16 awarded under this Act shall be used by the Police
17 Athletic League to provide funding for the establish-
18 ment of PAL chapters serving public housing
19 projects and other distressed areas, or the expansion
20 of existing PAL chapters.

21 (2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Each new or
22 expanded PAL chapter assisted under paragraph (1)
23 shall carry out not less than four programs during
24 nonschool hours, of which—

1 (A) not less than two programs shall
2 provide—

3 (i) mentoring assistance;

4 (ii) academic assistance;

5 (iii) recreational and athletic activi-
6 ties; or

7 (iv) technology training; and

8 (B) any remaining programs shall
9 provide—

10 (i) drug, alcohol, and gang prevention
11 activities;

12 (ii) health and nutrition counseling;

13 (iii) cultural and social programs;

14 (iv) conflict resolution training, anger
15 management, and peer pressure training;

16 (v) job skill preparation activities; or

17 (vi) Youth Police Athletic League
18 Conferences or Youth Forums.

19 (b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out
20 the programs under subsection (a), a PAL chapter shall,
21 to the maximum extent practicable—

22 (1) use volunteers from businesses, academic
23 communities, social organizations, and law enforce-
24 ment organizations to serve as mentors or to assist
25 in other ways;

1 (2) ensure that youth in the local community
2 participate in designing the after-school activities;

3 (3) develop creative methods of conducting out-
4 reach to youth in the community;

5 (4) request donations of computer equipment
6 and other materials and equipment; and

7 (5) work with State and local park and recre-
8 ation agencies so that activities funded with amounts
9 made available under a grant under this Act will not
10 duplicate activities funded from other sources in the
11 community served.

12 **SEC. 7. REPORTS.**

13 (a) REPORT TO ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.—
14 For each fiscal year for which a grant is awarded under
15 this Act, the Police Athletic League shall submit to the
16 Assistant Attorney General a report on the use of amounts
17 made available under the grant.

18 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than May 1
19 of each fiscal year for which amounts are made available
20 to carry out this Act, the Assistant Attorney General shall
21 submit to the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate
22 and the House of Representatives a report that details the
23 progress made under this Act in establishing and expand-
24 ing PAL chapters in public housing projects and other dis-
25 tressed areas, and the effectiveness of the PAL programs

1 in reducing drug abuse, school dropouts, and juvenile
2 crime.

3 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
5 priated to carry out this Act \$16,000,000 for each of fiscal
6 years 2001 through 2005.

7 (b) FUNDING FOR PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.—Of
8 the amount made available to carry out this Act in each
9 fiscal year—

10 (1) not less than 2 percent shall be used for re-
11 search and evaluation of the grant program under
12 this Act;

13 (2) not less than 1 percent shall be used for
14 technical assistance related to the use of amounts
15 made available under grants awarded under this Act;
16 and

17 (3) not less than 1 percent shall be used for the
18 management and administration of the grant pro-
19 gram under this Act, except that the total amount

- 1 made available under this paragraph for administra-
- 2 tion of that program shall not exceed 6 percent.

Passed the House of Representatives October 2,
2000.

Attest:

Clerk.