H. R. 6691

To establish and operate a National Center for Campus Public Safety.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 20, 2012

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. CUMMINGS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish and operate a National Center for Campus Public Safety.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Center to Advance, Monitor, and Preserve University Security Safety Act of 2012” or the “CAMPUS Safety Act of 2012”.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL CENTER FOR CAMPUS PUBLIC SAFETY.

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:
“PART LL—NATIONAL CENTER FOR CAMPUS
PUBLIC SAFETY

“SEC. 3021. NATIONAL CENTER FOR CAMPUS PUBLIC SAFE-
TY.

“(a) Authority To Establish and Operate Center.—

“(1) In general.—The Attorney General is
authorized to establish and operate, within the Of-
lice of Community Oriented Policing Services, a Na-
tional Center for Campus Public Safety (referred to
in this section as the ‘Center’).

“(2) Grant authority.—The Attorney Gen-
eral, through the Office of Community Oriented Po-
licing Services, is authorized to award grants to in-
stitutions of higher education and other nonprofit
organizations to assist in carrying out the functions
of the Center required under subsection (b).

“(b) Functions of the Center.—The Center
shall—

“(1) provide quality education and training for
public safety personnel of institutions of higher edu-
cation and their collaborative partners, including
campus mental health agencies;

“(2) foster quality research to strengthen the
safety and security of institutions of higher edu-
cation;
“(3) serve as a clearinghouse for the identification and dissemination of information, policies, protocols, procedures, and best practices relevant to campus public safety, including off-campus housing safety, the prevention of violence against persons and property, and emergency response and evacuation procedures;

“(4) coordinate with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Education, State, local and tribal governments and law enforcement agencies, private and nonprofit organizations and associations, and other stakeholders, to develop protocols and best practices to prevent, protect against and respond to dangerous and violent situations involving an immediate threat to the safety of the campus community;

“(5) promote the development and dissemination of effective behavioral threat assessment and management models to prevent campus violence;

“(6) identify campus safety information (including ways to increase off-campus housing safety) and identify resources available from the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Education, State, local, and tribal
governments and law enforcement agencies, and private and nonprofit organizations and associations;

“(7) promote cooperation, collaboration, and consistency in prevention, response, and problem-solving methods among public safety and emergency management personnel of institutions of higher education and their campus- and non-campus-based collaborative partners, including law enforcement, emergency management, mental health services, and other relevant agencies;

“(8) disseminate standardized formats and models for mutual aid agreements and memoranda of understanding between campus security agencies and other public safety organizations and mental health agencies; and

“(9) report annually to Congress on activities performed by the Center during the previous 12 months.

“(c) COORDINATION WITH AVAILABLE RESOURCES.—In establishing the Center, the Attorney General shall—

“(1) coordinate with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of Education, and appropriate State or territory officials; and
“(2) ensure coordination with campus public safety resources within the Department of Homeland Security, including within the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Department of Education.

“(d) DEFINITION OF INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—In this section, the term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

“(e) FUNDING.—Funding for the implementation of this part shall be through the use of existing excess unobligated funds available to the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.”.

SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall preclude public elementary and secondary schools or their larger governing agencies from receiving the informational and training benefits of the Center.