

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5645

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. MIN, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. BACON, Mr. CORREA, Mr. MACKENZIE, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. BILIRAKIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

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

8 (2) **DEPARTMENT.**—The term “Department”
9 means the Department of Homeland Security.

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

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

21 (5) **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.**—The term
22 “nonprofit organization” means an organization—

23 (A) of the type described in subsection
24 (c)(3) of section 501 of the Internal Revenue
25 Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under
26 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.—

(A) EVIDENCE-BASED TIERS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Executive Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, and the head of any other agency the Secretary determines appropriate, shall develop tiers for determining evidence-based best practices and recommendations that demonstrate a significant effect on improving safety and security of nonprofit organizations, including faith-based organizations, and houses of worship.

(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The tiers required to be developed under clause (i) shall—

(I) prioritize—

(aa) strong evidence from not fewer than 1 well-designed and well-implemented experimental study; and

(bb) moderate evidence from 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-

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

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

16 (iv) include any evidence or research
17 rationale supporting the determination of
18 the Clearinghouse that the comprehensive
19 safety and security measures under clauses
20 (ii) and (iii) have been shown to have a
21 significant effect on improving the safety
22 and security of individuals who, at the time
23 of any such threat or incident, are phys-
24 ically located in the place or building of a
25 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.

○