

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8675

To authorize the Department of Justice to provide grant funding to accredited nonprofit organizations to provide better access to needed training for law enforcement officers in rural and smaller communities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2026

Mrs. BICE (for herself and Ms. KAPTUR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize the Department of Justice to provide grant funding to accredited nonprofit organizations to provide better access to needed training for law enforcement officers in rural and smaller 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 “Training Rural Law
5 Enforcement Officers Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. TRAINING RURAL LAWFORCEMENT.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) There are more than 18,000 local police de-
2 partments and 3,000 sheriff's offices in the United
3 States. Of the local police departments in the United
4 States—

5 (A) nearly half have fewer than 10 sworn
6 officers;

7 (B) 3 out of 4 have fewer than 2 dozen
8 sworn officers; and

9 (C) 8 out of 10 have fewer than 50 sworn
10 officers.

11 (2) Federal funding available through grants
12 administered by the Department of Justice for law
13 enforcement is frequently complex in terms of the
14 application process and requires specific reporting
15 mandates.

16 (3) Smaller and rural law enforcement agencies
17 often forego pursuing Federal funding opportunities
18 as that pursuit creates a demand on already limited
19 staffing, and those smaller and rural law enforce-
20 ment agencies simply lack the experience and re-
21 sources to navigate through the application process
22 and to successfully adhere to the multitude of re-
23 porting requirements.

24 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ACCREDITED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—

2 The term “accredited nonprofit organization” means
3 a nonprofit organization that, as determined by the
4 Attorney General, has—

5 (A) the proper experience and expertise in
6 relevant law enforcement training; and

7 (B) a strong track record of successfully
8 conducting relevant law enforcement training in
9 a particular training discipline.

10 (2) LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING GRANT.—

11 The term “law enforcement training grant” means
12 a grant awarded by the Attorney General under the
13 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
14 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) for the purpose of
15 law enforcement training.

16 (c) AUTHORIZATION.—An accredited nonprofit orga-
17 nization shall be eligible to receive any law enforcement
18 training grant for the purpose of providing training to
19 State and local law enforcement agencies if the training
20 is—

21 (1) consistent with the priorities and objectives
22 of the Department of Justice;

23 (2) provided to a law enforcement agency with
24 fewer than 50 sworn law enforcement officers; and

- 1 (3) conducted at no cost to the law enforcement
- 2 agency receiving the training.

