

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2434

To establish counseling programs for disabled and retired police officers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish counseling programs for disabled and retired
police officers.

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. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

4 The Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Disabled police officers, retired as a result
6 of employment-related injuries, may suffer from the
7 effects of posttraumatic stress disorder relating to
8 situations they experienced in their careers as law
9 enforcement officers; others face the problems of
10 acclimating to civilian life, coping with uncertainty

1 regarding future employment and income, and learn-
2 ing to live with disabilities.

3 (2) Retired police officers often encounter some
4 of the same problems that retired disabled police of-
5 ficers face.

6 (3) With appropriate career counseling, train-
7 ing, and education programs, retired and disabled
8 police officers can obtain meaningful employment.

9 (4) Officers who are severely disabled may be
10 able to cope with the pain and depression that result
11 from their disabilities if they receive individual, fam-
12 ily, or group therapy.

13 (5) Many retired disabled and retired police of-
14 ficers do not seek necessary counseling services un-
15 less such services charge minimal or no fees.

16 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTERS.**

17 (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Attorney General
18 may make a grant in accordance with this Act to the Dis-
19 abled Police Officers Counseling Center, Inc., Upper Marl-
20 boro, Maryland, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, for
21 the purpose of assisting the Disabled Police Officers Coun-
22 seling Center, Inc., in providing free services to retired dis-
23 abled, and retired police officers, and to the immediate
24 family members of such officers.

1 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant provided under this
2 Act shall be used only to provide free counseling services
3 at not more than 10 locations in the United States to re-
4 tired disabled and retired police officers and immediate
5 family members of such officers.

6 **SEC. 3. APPLICATIONS.**

7 (a) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—To receive a grant
8 under this Act, the Disabled Police Officers Counseling
9 Center, Inc. shall submit an application at such time, in
10 such manner, and accompanied by such information as the
11 Attorney General may reasonably require.

12 (b) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—Each such appli-
13 cation shall contain provisions to assure that—

14 (1) the grant received under this Act will be
15 used to establish not more than 10 counseling cen-
16 ters throughout the United States; and

17 (2) centers established with funds provided
18 under this Act shall make every attempt to coordi-
19 nate any additional necessary or appropriate services
20 for retired disabled and retired police officers and
21 family members of such officers through the Dis-
22 abled Police Officer Counseling Center, Inc., of
23 Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

2 The Director of the Disabled Police Officers Counsel-
3 ing Center shall submit a report to the Attorney General
4 not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment
5 of this Act regarding—

6 (1) the number of retired disabled and retired
7 police officers and their family members served; and

8 (2) the effectiveness of services at the centers
9 established with funds provided under this Act.

10 **SEC. 5. DEFINITION.**

11 For purposes of this Act, the term “retired disabled
12 police officer” means a Federal, State, county, or city law
13 enforcement officer, sheriff, deputy sheriff, trooper, cor-
14 rections officer, police officer, or special agent who has be-
15 come disabled and is retired or will be retired from such
16 law enforcement agency as a result of employment related
17 injuries.

18 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

19 There are authorized to be appropriated \$800,000 for
20 fiscal year 1998 to carry out this Act.

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