

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 640

To establish a pilot program to promote the replication of recent successful juvenile crime reduction strategies.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 1999

Mr. BINGAMAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish a pilot program to promote the replication of recent successful juvenile crime reduction strategies.

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 “Safer Communities
5 Partnership Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM TO PROMOTE REPLICATION OF**
7 **RECENT SUCCESSFUL JUVENILE CRIME RE-**
8 **DUCTION STRATEGIES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—

1 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Attorney General
2 (or a designee of the Attorney General), in conjunc-
3 tion with the Secretary of the Treasury (or the des-
4 ignee of the Secretary), shall establish a pilot pro-
5 gram (referred to in this section as the “program”)
6 to encourage and support communities that adopt a
7 comprehensive approach to suppressing and pre-
8 venting violent juvenile crime and reducing drug and
9 alcohol abuse among juveniles, patterned after suc-
10 cessful State juvenile crime reduction strategies.

11 (2) PROGRAM.—In carrying out the program,
12 the Attorney General shall—

13 (A) make and track grants to grant recipi-
14 ents (referred to in this section as “coalitions”);

15 (B) in conjunction with the Secretary of
16 the Treasury and the Secretary of Health and
17 Human Services, provide for technical assist-
18 ance and training, in addition to data collection,
19 and dissemination of relevant information; and

20 (C) provide for the general administration
21 of the program.

22 (3) ADMINISTRATION.—Not later than 30 days
23 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney
24 General shall appoint or designate an Administrator

1 (referred to in this section as the “Administrator”)
2 to carry out the program.

3 (4) PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.—To be eligible
4 to receive an initial grant or a renewal grant under
5 this section, a coalition shall meet each of the fol-
6 lowing criteria:

7 (A) COMPOSITION.—The coalition shall
8 consist of 1 or more representatives of—

9 (i) the local or tribal police depart-
10 ment or sheriff’s department;

11 (ii) the local prosecutors’ office;

12 (iii) State or local probation officers;

13 (iv) religious affiliated or fraternal or-
14 ganizations involved in crime prevention;

15 (v) schools;

16 (vi) parents or local grass roots orga-
17 nizations such as neighborhood watch
18 groups;

19 (vii) social service agencies involved in
20 crime prevention;

21 (viii) a juvenile or youth court judge;
22 and

23 (ix) substance and alcohol abuse coun-
24 selors and treatment providers.

1 (B) OTHER PARTICIPANTS.—If possible, in
2 addition to the representatives from the cat-
3 egories listed in subparagraph (A), the coalition
4 shall include 1 or more representatives of—

5 (i) the United States Attorney’s office;

6 (ii) the Federal Bureau of Investiga-
7 tion;

8 (iii) the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco
9 and Firearms;

10 (iv) the Drug Enforcement Adminis-
11 tration;

12 (v) the business community; and

13 (vi) researchers who have studied
14 criminal justice and can offer technical or
15 other assistance.

16 (C) COORDINATED STRATEGY.—A coalition
17 shall submit to the Attorney General, or the At-
18 torney General’s designee, a comprehensive plan
19 for reducing violent juvenile crime. To be eligi-
20 ble for consideration, a plan shall—

21 (i) ensure close collaboration among
22 all members of the coalition in suppressing
23 and preventing juvenile crime;

24 (ii) place heavy emphasis on coordi-
25 nated enforcement initiatives, such as Fed-

1 eral and State programs that coordinate
2 local police departments, prosecutors, and
3 local community leaders to focus on the
4 suppression of violent juvenile crime involv-
5 ing gangs;

6 (iii) ensure that there is close collabo-
7 ration between police and probation offi-
8 cers in the supervision of juvenile offend-
9 ers, such as initiatives that coordinate the
10 efforts of parents, school officials, and po-
11 lice and probation officers to patrol the
12 streets and make home visits to ensure
13 that offenders comply with the terms of
14 their probation;

15 (iv) ensure that a program is in place
16 to trace all firearms seized from crime
17 scenes or offenders in an effort to identify
18 illegal gun traffickers;

19 (v) ensure that effective crime preven-
20 tion programs are in place, such as pro-
21 grams that provide after-school safe havens
22 and other opportunities for at-risk youth to
23 escape or avoid gang or other criminal ac-
24 tivity, and to reduce recidivism; and

1 (vi) ensure that a program is in place
2 to divert nonviolent juvenile offenders into
3 substance or alcohol abuse treatment, the
4 successful completion of which may result
5 in a suspended sentence for the offense,
6 and the unsuccessful completion of which
7 may result in an enhanced sentence for the
8 offense.

9 (D) ACCOUNTABILITY.—A coalition shall—

10 (i) establish a system to measure and
11 report outcomes consistent with common
12 indicators and evaluation protocols estab-
13 lished by the Administrator and that re-
14 ceives the approval of the Administrator;
15 and

16 (ii) devise a detailed model for meas-
17 uring and evaluating the success of the
18 plan of the coalition in reducing violent ju-
19 venile crime, and provide assurances that
20 the plan will be evaluated on a regular
21 basis to assess progress in reducing violent
22 juvenile crime.

23 (5) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this
24 section, the Attorney General shall give priority to

1 coalitions representing communities with dem-
2 onstrated juvenile crime and drug abuse problems.

3 (6) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may
5 award a grant to an eligible coalition under this
6 section, in an amount not to exceed the lesser
7 of—

8 (i) the amount of non-Federal funds
9 raised by the coalition, including in-kind
10 contributions, for that fiscal year; and

11 (ii) \$400,000.

12 (B) NONSUPPLANTING REQUIREMENT.—A
13 coalition seeking funds shall provide reasonable
14 assurances that funds made available under this
15 program to States or units of local government
16 shall be so used as to supplement and increase
17 (but not supplant) the level of the State, local,
18 and other non-Federal funds that would in the
19 absence of such Federal funds be made avail-
20 able for programs described in this section, and
21 shall in no event replace such State, local, or
22 other non-Federal funds.

23 (C) SUSPENSION OF GRANTS.—If a coali-
24 tion fails to continue to meet the criteria set
25 forth in this section, the Administrator may

1 suspend the grant, after providing written no-
 2 tice to the grant recipient and an opportunity
 3 to appeal.

4 (D) RENEWAL GRANTS.—Subject to sub-
 5 paragraph (D), the Administrator may award a
 6 renewal grant to grant recipient under this sub-
 7 paragraph for each fiscal year following the fis-
 8 cal year for which an initial grant is awarded,
 9 in an amount not to exceed the amount of non-
 10 Federal funds raised by the coalition, including
 11 in-kind contributions, for that fiscal year, dur-
 12 ing the 4-year period following the period of the
 13 initial grant.

14 (7) PERMITTED USE OF FUNDS.—A coalition
 15 receiving funds under this section may expend such
 16 Federal funds on any use or program that is con-
 17 tained in the plan submitted to the Administrator.

18 (8) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Two years after the
 20 date of implementation of the program estab-
 21 lished in this section, the Comptroller General
 22 of the United States shall submit to Congress
 23 a report reviewing the effectiveness of the pro-
 24 gram in suppressing and reducing violent juve-
 25 nile crime in the participating communities.

(B) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include—

(i) an analysis of each community participating in the program, along with information regarding the plan undertaken in the community, and the effectiveness of the plan in reducing violent juvenile crime; and

(ii) recommendations regarding the efficacy of continuing the program.

(b) INFORMATION COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION WITH RESPECT TO COALITIONS.—

(1) COALITION INFORMATION.—For the purpose of audit and examination, the Attorney General—

(A) shall have access to any books, documents, papers, and records that are pertinent to any grant or grant renewal request under this section; and

(B) may periodically request information from a coalition to ensure that the coalition meets the applicable criteria.

(2) REPORTING.—The Attorney General shall, to the maximum extent practicable and in a manner

1 consistent with applicable law, minimize reporting
2 requirements by a coalition and expedite any appli-
3 cation for a renewal grant made under this section.

4 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
6 appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for
7 each of fiscal years 2000 through 2003, of which—

8 (A) not less than \$1,000,000 in each fiscal
9 year shall be used for coalitions representing
10 communities with a population of not more
11 than 50,000; and

12 (B) not less than 2 percent in each fiscal
13 year shall be used for technical assistance and
14 training under subsection (a)(2)(B).

15 (2) SOURCE OF SUMS.—Amounts authorized to
16 be appropriated pursuant to this subsection may be
17 derived from the Violent Crime Reduction Trust
18 Fund.

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