

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 996

To establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase school safety equipment.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 11, 1999

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

A BILL

To establish a matching grant program to help State and local jurisdictions purchase school safety equipment.

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 “Students Learning in
5 Safe Schools Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL SAFETY**
7 **EQUIPMENT.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part Y of title I of the Omnibus
9 Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 is amended—

1 (1) by striking the part designation and part
 2 heading and inserting the following:

3 **“PART Y—MATCHING GRANT PROGRAMS**

4 **“Subpart A—Grant Program For Armor**
 5 **Vests”;**

6 (2) by striking “this part” each place that term
 7 appears and inserting “this subpart”; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following:

9 **“Subpart B—Grant Program For School**
 10 **Safety Equipment**

11 **“SEC. 2511. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Bureau of
 13 Justice Assistance is authorized to make grants to States,
 14 units of local government, Indian tribes, and local edu-
 15 cational agencies to purchase school safety equipment for
 16 use in and near elementary and secondary schools.

17 “(b) USES OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under this
 18 section shall be—

19 “(1) distributed directly to the State, unit of
 20 local government, Indian tribe, or local educational
 21 agency, as applicable; and

22 “(2) used for the purchase of school safety
 23 equipment for use in elementary and secondary
 24 schools in the jurisdiction of the grantee.

1 “(c) PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.—In awarding
 2 grants under this subpart, the Director of the Bureau of
 3 Justice Assistance may give preferential consideration, if
 4 feasible, to an application from a jurisdiction that—

5 “(1) has the greatest need for school safety
 6 equipment, based on the percentage of elementary
 7 and secondary schools in the jurisdiction of the ap-
 8 plicant that do not have access to such equipment;

9 “(2) has a violent crime rate at or above the
 10 national average as determined by the Federal Bu-
 11 reau of Investigation; or

12 “(3) has not received a block grant under the
 13 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program de-
 14 scribed under the heading ‘Violent Crime Reduction
 15 Programs, State and Local Law Enforcement As-
 16 sistance’ of the Departments of Commerce, Justice,
 17 and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Ap-
 18 propriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105–119).

19 “(d) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Unless all eligible applica-
 20 tions submitted by any State or unit of local government
 21 within such State for a grant under this section have been
 22 funded, such State, together with grantees within the
 23 State (other than Indian tribes), shall be allocated in each
 24 fiscal year under this section not less than 0.50 percent
 25 of the total amount appropriated in the fiscal year for

1 grants pursuant to this section except that the United
2 States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the
3 Northern Mariana Islands shall each be allocated .25 per-
4 cent.

5 “(e) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—A qualifying State, unit of
6 local government, Indian tribe, or local educational agency
7 may not receive more than 5 percent of the total amount
8 appropriated in each fiscal year for grants under this sec-
9 tion, except that a State, together with the grantees within
10 the State may not receive more than 20 percent of the
11 total amount appropriated in each fiscal year for grants
12 under this section.

13 “(f) MATCHING FUNDS.—The portion of the costs of
14 a program provided by a grant under subsection (a) may
15 not exceed 50 percent. Any funds appropriated by Con-
16 gress for the activities of any agency of an Indian tribal
17 government or the Bureau of Indian Affairs performing
18 law enforcement functions on any Indian lands may be
19 used to provide the non-Federal share of a matching re-
20 quirement funded under this subsection.

21 “(g) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Not less than 50 per-
22 cent of the total amount made available to carry out this
23 subpart in each fiscal year shall be awarded to units of
24 local government with fewer than 100,000 residents.

1 **“SEC. 2512. APPLICATIONS.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—To request a grant under this
3 subpart, the chief executive of a State, unit of local gov-
4 ernment, Indian tribe, or local educational agency shall
5 submit an application to the Director of the Bureau of
6 Justice Assistance in such form and containing such infor-
7 mation as the Director may reasonably require.

8 “(b) REGULATIONS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
10 after the date of enactment of the Students Learn-
11 ing in Safe Schools Act of 1999, the Director of the
12 Bureau of Justice Assistance shall promulgate regu-
13 lations to implement this section (including the in-
14 formation that must be included and the require-
15 ments that the States, units of local government, In-
16 dian tribes, and local educational agencies must
17 meet) in submitting the applications required under
18 this section.

19 “(2) INTERNET ACCESS.—The regulations pro-
20 mulgated under this subsection shall provide for the
21 availability of applications for, and other information
22 relating to, assistance under this subpart on the
23 Internet website of the Department of Justice, in a
24 manner that is closely linked to the information on
25 that Internet website concerning the program under
26 part Q.

1 “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—A unit of local government that
 2 receives funding under the Local Law Enforcement Block
 3 Grant program (described under the heading ‘Violent
 4 Crime Reduction Programs, State and Local Law En-
 5 forcement Assistance’ of the Departments of Commerce,
 6 Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies
 7 Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 104–119)) during
 8 a fiscal year in which it submits an application under this
 9 subpart shall not be eligible for a grant under this subpart
 10 unless the chief executive officer of such unit of local gov-
 11 ernment certifies and provides an explanation to the Di-
 12 rector that the unit of local government considered or will
 13 consider using funding received under the block grant pro-
 14 gram for any or all of the costs relating to the purchase
 15 of school safety equipment, but did not, or does not expect
 16 to use such funds for such purpose.

17 **“SEC. 2513. DEFINITIONS.**

18 “In this subpart—

19 “(1) the term ‘Indian tribe’ has the same mean-
 20 ing as in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determina-
 21 tion and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.
 22 450b(e));

23 “(2) the term ‘school safety equipment’ means
 24 metal detectors, metal detecting wands, video cam-

1 eras, and other equipment designed to detect weap-
 2 ons and otherwise enhance school safety;

3 “(3) the term ‘State’ means each of the 50
 4 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
 5 of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands,
 6 American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana
 7 Islands; and

8 “(4) the term ‘unit of local government’ means
 9 a county, municipality, town, township, village, par-
 10 ish, borough, school district, or other unit of general
 11 government below the State level.”.

12 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
 13 1001(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets
 14 Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)) is amended by striking
 15 paragraph (23) and inserting the following:

16 “(23) There are authorized to be appropriated to
 17 carry out part Y—

18 “(A) \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years
 19 2000 through 2002 for grants under subpart A
 20 of that part; and

21 “(B) \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years
 22 2000 through 2002 for grants under subpart B
 23 of that part.”.

1 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING AMERICAN-MADE**
 2 **PRODUCTS AND EQUIPMENT.**

3 In the case of any equipment or products that may
 4 be authorized to be purchased with financial assistance
 5 provided using funds appropriated or otherwise made
 6 available by this Act, it is the sense of the Congress that
 7 entities receiving the assistance should, in expending the
 8 assistance, purchase only American-made equipment and
 9 products, unless such equipment or products are not read-
 10 ily available at reasonable costs.

11 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING SCHOOL SECU-**
 12 **RITY.**

13 It is the sense of the Senate that recipients of assist-
 14 ance under subpart B of part Y of title I of the Omnibus
 15 Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as added
 16 by this Act, should, to the maximum extent practicable,
 17 seek to achieve a balance between school security needs
 18 and the need for an environment that is conducive to
 19 learning.

20 **SEC. 5. TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.**

21 Section 202 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control
 22 and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3722) is amend-
 23 ed by adding at the end the following:

24 “(e) SCHOOL SAFETY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOP-
 25 MENT.—The Institute shall conduct research and other-
 26 wise work to develop new weapons detection technologies

1 and safety systems that are appropriate to school set-
2 tings.”.

