

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 777

To authorize grants to States to fund arrangements between local police departments and public accommodations to have the accommodations serve as emergency domestic violence shelters.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2003

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

A BILL

To authorize grants to States to fund arrangements between local police departments and public accommodations to have the accommodations serve as emergency domestic violence shelters.

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 “Domestic Violence
5 Shelter Coordination Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATE GRANTS FOR EMERGENCY DOMESTIC VIO-**
2 **LENCE SHELTERS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make
4 grants to States to enable the States to provide local police
5 departments within the States with funds to pay to have
6 hotels, motels, and other places of public accommodation
7 serve as emergency domestic violence shelters.

8 (b) APPLICATION.—The Attorney General shall by
9 regulation prescribe the manner in which grant funds
10 under subsection (a) are to be made available to local po-
11 lice departments for emergency domestic violence shelters.
12 Such regulation shall include—

13 (1) a requirement that a State may not receive
14 funds from the Attorney General under subsection
15 (a) unless the State demonstrates, to the satisfaction
16 of the Attorney General, that—

17 (A) there is a shortage of emergency do-
18 mestic violence shelters in the State;

19 (B) appropriate measures will be taken
20 with respect to a public accommodation to be
21 used as an emergency domestic violence shelter
22 for privacy of, and security for, the users of the
23 shelter; and

24 (C) there will be cooperation between the
25 emergency domestic violence shelters in the
26 State and the local police departments; and

1 (2) a requirement that no place of public ac-
2 commodation may be used as an emergency domestic
3 violence shelter without the consent of the owner of
4 the accommodation.

5 To receive a grant under subsection (a) a State shall sub-
6 mit an application to the Attorney General which shall in-
7 clude a plan prepared in accordance with the regulation
8 of the Attorney General for the distribution of grant funds
9 to local police departments.

10 (c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
11 term “domestic violence” includes acts or threats of vio-
12 lence, not including acts of self-defense, committed by a
13 current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with
14 whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person
15 who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the victim,
16 by a person who is or has been in a continuing social rela-
17 tionship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim,
18 by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim
19 under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdic-
20 tion, or by any other person against a victim who is pro-
21 tected from that person’s acts under the domestic or fam-
22 ily violence laws of the jurisdiction.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be ap-
2 propriated to the Attorney General for grants under sub-
3 section (a) such sums as may be necessary.

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