

Calendar No. 624

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 2632**

To establish a first responder and terrorism preparedness grant information hotline, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 8, 2004

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read the first time

JULY 9, 2004

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To establish a first responder and terrorism preparedness grant information hotline, and for other purposes.

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 “First Responders
5 Homeland Defense Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “local
2 government” has the meaning given that term under
3 section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
4 U.S.C. 101(10)).

5 (2) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term
6 “non-profit organization” means an organization de-
7 scribed under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Rev-
8 enue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under
9 section 501(a) of such Code.

10 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
11 the Secretary of Homeland Security.

12 **SEC. 3. GRANT INFORMATION HOTLINE.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a
14 toll-free hotline through which local governments and non-
15 profit organizations may obtain information regarding all
16 Federal grant programs that make funds available for the
17 assistance of first responders and for terrorism prepared-
18 ness.

19 (b) INFORMATION.—The information available
20 through the hotline established under subsection (a) shall
21 include the types of grants available, application proce-
22 dures, and such other information as the Secretary deter-
23 mines necessary.

1 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
3 essary to carry out this section.

4 **SEC. 4. FIRST RESPONDER GRANT PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
6 make grants, on a competitive basis, to non-profit organi-
7 zations eligible under subsection (c), for the purpose of
8 training and equipping first responders.

9 (b) APPLICATION.—A non-profit organization may
10 apply for a grant under subsection (a) by submitting an
11 application to the Secretary, in such form and containing
12 such information as prescribed by the Secretary.

13 (c) ELIGIBLE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.—Non-
14 profit organizations that operate training programs for
15 first responders in conjunction with a local agency shall
16 be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a).

17 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
18 are authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 in each of
19 fiscal years 2005 through 2009, to carry out this section.

20 **SEC. 5. COMMUNICATION SYSTEM GRANTS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
22 make grants, on a competitive basis, to States, local gov-
23 ernments, local law enforcement agencies, and local fire
24 departments to assist in—

1 (1) improving communication systems to allow
2 for real-time, interoperable communication between
3 State and local first responders; or

4 (2) the purchase of communication systems that
5 allow for real-time, interoperable communication be-
6 tween such State and local first responders.

7 (b) APPLICATION.—Any State, local government,
8 local law enforcement agency, or local fire department that
9 desires to receive a grant under subsection (a) shall sub-
10 mit an application to the Secretary, in such form and con-
11 taining such information as prescribed by the Secretary.

12 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
13 are authorized to be appropriated \$300,000,000 in each
14 of fiscal years 2005 through 2009, to carry out this sec-
15 tion.

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