

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 73

To provide for the collection of data on traffic stops.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for the collection of data on traffic stops.

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 “Traffic Stops Along
5 the Border Statistics Study Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. ATTORNEY GENERAL STUDY.**

7 (a) STUDY.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall
9 conduct a nationwide study of stops for traffic viola-
10 tions by law enforcement officers.

11 (2) INITIAL ANALYSIS.—The Attorney General
12 shall perform an initial analysis of existing data, in-

cluding complaints alleging, and other information concerning, traffic stops motivated by race and other bias.

(3) DATA COLLECTION.—After completion of the initial analysis under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall gather the following data on traffic stops from a nationwide sample of jurisdictions, including jurisdictions identified in the initial analysis:

(A) The traffic infraction alleged to have been committed that led to the stop.

(B) Identifying characteristics of the driver stopped, including the race, gender, ethnicity, and approximate age of the driver.

(C) Whether immigration status was questioned, immigration documents were requested, or an inquiry was made to the Immigration and Naturalization Service with regard to any individual in the vehicle and whether any individual in the vehicle was turned over to immigration officials.

(D) The number of stops conducted within 25 miles of the United States border with Mexico compared with the number of stops con-

1 ducted within 25 miles of the United States
2 border with Canada.

3 (E) The number of individuals in the
4 stopped vehicle.

5 (F) Whether a search was instituted as a
6 result of the stop and whether consent was re-
7 quested for the search.

8 (G) Any alleged criminal behavior by the
9 driver that justified the search.

10 (H) Any items seized, including contra-
11 band or money.

12 (I) Whether any warning or citation was
13 issued as a result of the stop.

14 (J) Whether an arrest was made as a re-
15 sult of either the stop or the search and the
16 justification for the arrest.

17 (K) The duration of the stop.

18 (b) REPORTING.—

19 (1) INITIAL ANALYSIS.—Not later than 120
20 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the At-
21 torney General shall report the results of its initial
22 analysis under subsection (a)(2) to Congress and
23 make such report available to the public, and iden-
24 tify the jurisdictions for which the study is to be
25 conducted.

1 (2) DATA COLLECTION.—Not later than 2 years
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney
3 General shall report the results of the data collected
4 under subsection (a)(3) to Congress, a copy of which
5 shall also be published in the Federal Register.

6 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 In order to complete the study described in section
8 2, the Attorney General may provide grants to law en-
9 forcement agencies to collect and submit the data de-
10 scribed in section 2 to the appropriate agency as des-
11 ignated by the Attorney General.

12 **SEC. 4. LIMITATION ON USE OF DATA.**

13 Information released pursuant to section 2 shall not
14 reveal the identity of any individual who is stopped or any
15 law enforcement officer involved in a traffic stop.

16 **SEC. 5. DEFINITION.**

17 For purposes of this Act, the term “law enforcement
18 agency” means an agency of a State or political subdivi-
19 sion of a State, authorized by law or by a Federal, State,
20 or local government agency to engage in or supervise the
21 prevention, detection, or investigation of violations of
22 criminal laws.

1 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
3 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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