

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3719

To establish a grant program for first responder agencies that experience an extraordinary financial burden resulting from the deployment of employees.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2010

Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. CONRAD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To establish a grant program for first responder agencies that experience an extraordinary financial burden resulting from the deployment of employees.

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 “Strengthening Commu-
5 nity Safety Act of 2010”.

6 **SEC. 2. FIRST RESPONDER AGENCY GRANTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XX of the Homeland Secu-
8 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by
9 adding at the end the following:

1 **“Subtitle C—Other Assistance**

2 **“SEC. 2041. FIRST RESPONDER AGENCY GRANTS.**

3 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

4 “(1) the term ‘active duty’ has the meaning
5 given that term in section 101 of title 10, United
6 States Code;

7 “(2) the term ‘eligible first responder agency’
8 means a first responder agency for which the cost of
9 operating the first responder agency has increased
10 by not less than 5 percent as a direct result of 1 or
11 more employees of the first responder agency who
12 are reservists being placed on active duty;

13 “(3) the term ‘first responder agency’ means—

14 “(A) a law enforcement agency or fire
15 service (as defined in section 4 of the Federal
16 Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15
17 U.S.C. 2203)) of a State or local government;
18 or

19 “(B) a publicly or privately operated am-
20 bulance service that is—

21 “(i) authorized or licensed by a State
22 to engage in rescue activity or to provide
23 emergency medical services; and

1 “(ii) designated by a State as a
2 prehospital emergency medical response
3 agency; and

4 “(4) the term ‘reservist’ means a member of a
5 reserve component of the Armed Forces, as defined
6 in section 10101 of title 10, United States Code.

7 “(b) AUTHORIZATION.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
9 the Administrator may make a grant to an eligible
10 first responder agency for the additional costs in-
11 curred by the eligible first responder agency as a di-
12 rect result of 1 or more employees of the agency or
13 service who are reservists being placed on active
14 duty.

15 “(2) LIMITATION FOR FEDERALLY FUNDED PO-
16 SITIONS.—The Administrator may not make a grant
17 under this section for costs relating to an employee
18 being placed on active duty if Federal funds are
19 used, in whole or in part, for the pay or benefits of
20 the employee.

21 “(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant under this section
22 may be used for—

23 “(1) pay and benefits for an individual hired to
24 replace an employee placed on active duty;

1 “(2) overtime expenses for an employee that
2 performs tasks that would have been performed by
3 an employee placed on active duty; and

4 “(3) the cost of equipment, maintenance, or
5 other activities—

6 “(A) the eligible first responder agency
7 was unable to acquire or perform because of the
8 cost of replacing an employee placed on active
9 duty; or

10 “(B) the need for which was caused by an
11 employee being placed on active duty.

12 “(d) PERIOD OF GRANT.—A grant under this section
13 shall be for a period of 6 months.”.

14 (b) REPORTING.—

15 (1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the
16 terms “active duty”, “first responder agency”, and
17 “reservist” have the meanings given those terms in
18 section 2041 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002,
19 as added by subsection (a).

20 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
21 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
22 the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall
23 submit to Congress a report regarding the placing
24 on active duty of employees of first responder agen-
25 cies that are reservists, including an evaluation of—

1 (A) the effects, including financial effects,
 2 of placing the employees on active duty on—

3 (i) the operation of the first responder
 4 agencies; and

5 (ii) the services the first responder
 6 agencies provide to the communities served
 7 by the first responder agencies; and

8 (B) first responder agency grants under
 9 section 2041 of the Homeland Security Act of
 10 2002, as added by subsection (a), including the
 11 effect of the grants on—

12 (i) the operation of the first responder
 13 agencies; and

14 (ii) the services the first responder
 15 agencies provide to the communities served
 16 by the first responder agencies.

17 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—
 18 The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Se-
 19 curity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by
 20 adding at the end the following:

“Subtitle C—Other Assistance

“Sec. 2041. First responder agency grants.”.

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