

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2318

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2015

Mr. REICHERT (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. LANCE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. HANNA, and Mr. DENT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, 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 “COPS Improvement
5 and Reauthorization Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. COPS GRANT IMPROVEMENTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1701 of title I of the Om-
8 nibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
9 U.S.C. 3796dd) is amended—

1 (1) by striking subsection (c);

2 (2) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
3 section (c);

4 (3) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
5 following:

6 “(a) THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLIC-
7 ING SERVICES.—

8 “(1) OFFICE.—There is within the Department
9 of Justice, under the general authority of the Attor-
10 ney General, a separate and distinct office to be
11 known as the Office of Community Oriented Policing
12 Services (referred to in this subsection as the ‘COPS
13 Office’).

14 “(2) DIRECTOR.—The COPS Office shall be
15 headed by a Director who shall—

16 “(A) be appointed by the Attorney Gen-
17 eral; and

18 “(B) have final authority over all grants,
19 cooperative agreements, and contracts awarded
20 by the COPS Office.

21 “(b) GRANT AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney Gen-
22 eral shall carry out grant programs under which the Attor-
23 ney General makes grants to States, units of local govern-
24 ment, Indian tribal governments, other public and private

1 entities, and multi-jurisdictional or regional consortia for
 2 the purposes described in subsections (c), (d), and (e).”;

3 (4) in subsection (c), as so redesignated—

4 (A) in the heading, by striking “uses of
 5 grant amounts.—” and inserting “COMMUNITY
 6 POLICING AND CRIME PREVENTION GRANTS”;

7 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “, to in-
 8 crease the number of officers deployed in com-
 9 munity-oriented policing”;

10 (C) in paragraph (4)—

11 (i) by striking “pay for offices” and
 12 inserting “pay for or train officers”; and

13 (ii) by inserting “, and to provide for
 14 the initial hiring of such officers” after
 15 “duties”;

16 (D) by striking paragraph (9);

17 (E) by redesignating paragraphs (5)
 18 through (8) as paragraphs (6) through (9), re-
 19 spectively;

20 (F) by inserting after paragraph (4) the
 21 following:

22 “(5) award grants to hire school resource offi-
 23 cers and to establish school-based partnerships be-
 24 tween local law enforcement agencies and local
 25 school systems to enhance school safety and to com-

1 bat crime, gangs, drug activities, and other problems
2 in and around elementary and secondary schools, in-
3 cluding assisting schools with emergency prepared-
4 ness and preventative measures plans for natural
5 disasters and acts of violence and terrorism.”;

6 (G) by striking paragraph (13);

7 (H) by redesignating paragraphs (14),
8 (15), and (16) as paragraphs (13), (14), and
9 (15), respectively;

10 (I) in paragraph (15), as so redesignated,
11 by striking “and” at the end;

12 (J) by redesignating paragraph (17) as
13 paragraph (18);

14 (K) by inserting after paragraph (15), as
15 so redesignated, the following:

16 “(16) establish and implement innovative pro-
17 grams to reduce and prevent illegal drug manufac-
18 turing, distribution, and use, including the manufac-
19 turing, distribution, and use of methamphetamine;
20 and

21 “(17) award enhancing community policing and
22 crime prevention grants that meet emerging law en-
23 forcement needs, as warranted.”; and

1 (L) in paragraph (18), as so redesignated,
2 by striking “through (16)” and inserting
3 “through (17)”;
4 (5) by striking subsections (h) and (i);
5 (6) by redesignating subsections (d) through (g)
6 as subsections (f) through (i), respectively;
7 (7) by inserting after subsection (c), as so re-
8 designated, the following:

9 “(d) TROOPS-TO-COPS PROGRAMS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Grants made under sub-
11 section (b) may be used to hire former members of
12 the Armed Forces to serve as career law enforce-
13 ment officers for deployment in community oriented
14 policing, particularly in communities that are ad-
15 versely affected by a recent military base closing.

16 “(2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, ‘former
17 member of the Armed Forces’ means a member of
18 the Armed Forces of the United States who is invol-
19 untarily separated from the Armed Forces within
20 the meaning of section 1141 of title 10, United
21 States Code.

22 “(e) TECHNOLOGY GRANTS.—The Attorney General
23 may make grants under subsection (b) to develop and use
24 new technologies (including interoperable communications
25 technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and

1 forensic technology) to assist State and local law enforce-
2 ment agencies in reorienting the emphasis of their activi-
3 ties from reacting to crime to preventing crime and to
4 train law enforcement officers to use such technologies.”;

5 (8) in subsection (f), as so redesignated—

6 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “to
7 States, units of local government, Indian tribal
8 governments, and to other public and private
9 entities,”;

10 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “define
11 for State and local governments, and other pub-
12 lic and private entities,” and inserting “estab-
13 lish”; and

14 (C) in the first sentence of paragraph (3),
15 by inserting “(including regional community po-
16licing institutes)” after “training centers or fa-
17cilities”;

18 (9) in subsection (h), as so redesignated—

19 (A) by striking “subsection (a)” the first
20 place that term appears and inserting “para-
21 graphs (1) and (2) of subsection (c)”;

22 (B) by striking “in each fiscal year pursu-
23 ant to subsection (a)” and inserting “in each
24 fiscal year for purposes described in paragraph
25 (1) and (2) of subsection (c)”;

1 (10) in subsection (i), as so redesignated, by
2 striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “subsection
3 (b)”;

4 (11) in subsection (j)(1), by striking “sub-
5 section (b)” and inserting “subsection (c)”.

6 (b) APPLICATIONS.—Section 1702(c) of title I of the
7 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
8 U.S.C. 3796dd–1(c)) is amended—

9 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (8) through
10 (11) as paragraphs (9) through (12), respectively;
11 and

12 (2) by inserting after paragraph (7) the fol-
13 lowing:

14 “(8) if the application is for a grant for officers
15 performing homeland security duties, explain how
16 the applicant intends to coordinate with Federal law
17 enforcement in support of the applicant’s homeland
18 security mission;”.

19 (c) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Section
20 1704(c) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
21 Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–3(c)) is amended
22 by striking “\$75,000” and inserting “\$125,000”.

23 (d) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1709(1) of title I of the
24 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
25 U.S.C. 3796dd–8(1)) is amended by striking “who is au-

1 thorized” and inserting “who is a sworn law enforcement
2 officer and is authorized”.

3 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
4 1001(a)(11) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and
5 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(11)) is
6 amended—

7 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “fiscal
8 years 2006 through 2009” and inserting “fiscal
9 years 2015 through 2019”; and

10 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

11 (A) in the first sentence—

12 (i) by striking “3 percent” and insert-
13 ing “5 percent”; and

14 (ii) by striking “section 1701(d)” and
15 inserting “section 1701(f)”; and

16 (B) by striking the second sentence and in-
17 serting the following: “Of the funds available
18 for grants under part Q, not less than
19 \$600,000,000 shall be used for grants for the
20 purposes specified in section 1701(c), and not
21 more than \$250,000,000 shall be used for
22 grants under section 1701(e).”.

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