

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7359

To authorize the use of certain Department of Justice grant funds for voting restoration education, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 20, 2018

Ms. MOORE (for herself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To authorize the use of certain Department of Justice grant funds for voting restoration education, 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 “Voter Information and  
5       Access Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. USE OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE GRANT FUNDS**  
2 **FOR VOTING RESTORATION EDUCATION.**

3 (a) SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007.—Section 3 of the  
4 Second Chance Act of 2007 (34 U.S.C. 60501) is amend-  
5 ed—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at  
8 the end;

9 (B) in paragraph (6), by striking the pe-  
10 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

11 (C) by inserting after paragraph (6) the  
12 following:

13 “(7) to provide persons in prisons, jails, and ju-  
14 venile facilities (as applicable) with counseling, edu-  
15 cation, and information services on voting restora-  
16 tion and voter registration; and

17 “(8) to install polling stations in jails or provide  
18 absentee ballots to incarcerated persons who are eli-  
19 gible to vote.”; and

20 (2) in subsection (b), by adding at the end the  
21 following:

22 “(20) Restoring the voting rights of incarcer-  
23 ated persons after their release can reduce recidi-  
24 vism”.

25 (b) ADULT AND JUVENILE OFFENDER STATE AND  
26 LOCAL REENTRY DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—Section

1 2976 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act  
2 of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10631) is amended—

3 (1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting after “lit-  
4 eracy,” the following: “voting restoration, voter reg-  
5 istration,”;

6 (2) in subsection (e)(3), by inserting after “vic-  
7 tims services,” the following: “voting restoration,  
8 voter registration,”;

9 (3) in subsection (j)(2)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (G), by striking  
11 “and” at the end;

12 (B) in subparagraph (H), by striking the  
13 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

14 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (H)  
15 the following:

16 “(I) increased voter registration or restora-  
17 tion.”; and

18 (4) in subsection (m)(3)—

19 (A) in subparagraph (H), by striking  
20 “and” at the end;

21 (B) in subparagraph (I), by striking the  
22 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

23 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (I) the  
24 following:

1                   “(J) disseminate relevant voter restoration  
2                   and voter registration information for each  
3                   State.”.

4           (c) STATE, TRIBAL, AND LOCAL REENTRY  
5 COURTS.—Section 2978(b)(4) of the Omnibus Crime Con-  
6 trol and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10633(b)(4))  
7 is amended—

8                   (1) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at  
9                   the end; and

10                  (2) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-  
11                  lowing:

12                               “(G) voter registration; and”.

13           (d) FEDERAL FORMERLY INCARCERATED PERSONS  
14 REENTRY INITIATIVE.—Section 4042(a)(E) of title 18,  
15 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
16 following:

17                               “(viii) Voting restoration and voter  
18                               registration.”.

19 **SEC. 3. GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE VOTING AMONG ELIGIBLE**  
20 **DETAINED AND INCARCERATED PERSONS.**

21           (a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney General is au-  
22 thorized to make grants to States and units of local gov-  
23 ernment to—

24                   (1) install polling places in jails for use by de-  
25                   tained persons eligible to vote;

1           (2) provide absentee ballots to detained persons  
2       eligible to vote; and

3           (3) provide counseling, education, and informa-  
4       tion services on voting restoration and voter reg-  
5       istration in prisons.

6       (b) APPLICATION.—The chief executive officer of a  
7       State or unit of local government seeking a grant under  
8       this section shall submit to the Attorney General an appli-  
9       cation at such time, in such manner, and containing such  
10      information as the Attorney General may reasonably re-  
11      quire.

12      (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
13      gress that recipients of grants under this section should  
14      continue to partner with entities possessing an existing  
15      and proven track record of providing affected populations  
16      with services described in subsection (a) on the date of  
17      the enactment of this Act.

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