

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7284

To authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the communities they serve, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2020

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mr. HASTINGS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve the relationship between the police and the communities they serve, 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 “Police Accountability  
5       and Community Engagement Act of 2020” or the “PAC  
6       Act”.

7       **SEC. 2. POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS GRANT PROGRAM.**

8       (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The Attorney General, acting  
9       through the Director of the Office of Community Oriented  
10      Policing Services, is authorized to make grants to non-

1 profit organizations, institutions of higher education, com-  
2 munity groups, and faith-based organizations to facilitate  
3 organized dialogues that bring together community mem-  
4 bers and law enforcement officers in order to build trust,  
5 increase accountability, and reduce tension in relation-  
6 ships between the community and the police.

7 (b) USES OF FUNDS.—A recipient of a grant under  
8 this section shall use such funds for the following:

9 (1) Community dialogues, led by a third-party  
10 facilitator, that bring together a diverse group of  
11 community members, local elected officials, law en-  
12 forcement leaders and officers, business leaders, and  
13 community members to assess the state of police and  
14 community relations in the area, which focus on tak-  
15 ing a proactive approach and developing concrete ac-  
16 tion items that will help improve the relationship be-  
17 tween the police and the community and further the  
18 goal of collective safety.

19 (2) Community dialogues that are specifically  
20 designed to bring together teenagers with law en-  
21 forcement officers, which aim to help police and  
22 young people honestly discuss their interaction and  
23 find common ground, which—

1 (A) are led by a third-party facilitator and  
2 held in a neutral space outside of a police sta-  
3 tion;

4 (B) provide equal participation for local  
5 law enforcement officers and youth;

6 (C) include law enforcement officers with a  
7 variety of levels of experience;

8 (D) meet at minimum on a monthly basis  
9 to engage in these group dialogues;

10 (E) include participants who reflect the de-  
11 mographics of the young people in the commu-  
12 nity;

13 (F) use facilitators with the appropriate  
14 language skills, if the local population includes  
15 young people for whom English is not their pri-  
16 mary language; and

17 (G) include the development of actionable  
18 next steps in order to ensure accountability and  
19 a formal action plan.

20 (3) Documenting results of the dialogues de-  
21 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2), including any  
22 practice that changes as a result of the dialogue.

23 (c) APPLICATION.—An entity seeking a grant under  
24 this section shall submit to the Attorney General an appli-  
25 cation at such time, in such manner, and containing such

1 information as the Attorney General may reasonably re-  
2 quire, except that no application shall be considered unless  
3 plans for community dialogue include, but not be limited  
4 to, a discussion concerning racism and its effects on po-  
5 lice-community relations.

6 (d) REPORT.—A recipient of a grant under this sec-  
7 tion shall submit to the Attorney General on a biannual  
8 basis the results of the dialogues conducted pursuant to  
9 a grant under this section, including any changes that  
10 were made to policing practices, the reason for the  
11 changes, and the results of the changes.

12 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
13 authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 to carry out  
14 this section.

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