

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4466

To authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve public safety,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 6, 2020

Ms. SMITH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize the Attorney General to make grants to improve
public safety, 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 “Supporting Innovation
5 in Public Safety Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INNOVATION IN SAFETY DEMONSTRATION PROJ-**
7 **ECTS.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
10 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-

mittees” means the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means a State government, a local government, or a Tribal government.

(3) LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—The term “law enforcement agency” means any government agency that has the principal functions of—

(A) the prevention, detection, and investigation of crime; and

(B) the apprehension of alleged criminal offenders.

(4) STATE.—The term “State” means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any possession of the United States.

(5) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term “Tribal government” means the government of an Indian tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).

(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall
2 award grants, on a competitive basis, to not less
3 than 100 eligible entities to perform a demonstration
4 project described in paragraph (2).

5 (2) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—An eligible
6 entity receiving a grant under paragraph (1) shall
7 perform a demonstration project that supports the
8 development and implementation of programs and
9 policies that improve public safety with innovative
10 strategies, including—

11 (A) improving mental health crisis re-
12 sponse;

13 (B) reassigning some functions of law en-
14 forcement officers to unarmed public employees;

15 (C) creating programs designed to reduce
16 the incidence of violence, harassment, and civil
17 rights violations by law enforcement officers;

18 (D) reducing the financial and operational
19 reliance of law enforcement agencies on the col-
20 lection of fines, fees, and other charges; and

21 (E) identifying, and making publicly avail-
22 able a report relating to, potential—

23 (i) reforms to State criminal statutes
24 in order to—

1 (I) eliminate unnecessary fines,
2 fees, and other charges; and

3 (II) eliminate or reduce manda-
4 tory minimum sentences; and

5 (ii) reforms to State criminal statutes
6 and local ordinances that—

7 (I) contribute to the criminaliza-
8 tion of poverty; or

9 (II) are enforced in a racially dis-
10 parate manner.

11 (3) DURATION.—A demonstration project per-
12 formed under paragraph (2) shall be performed for
13 a period of not less than 5 years.

14 (4) LIMITATION ON RECEIPT AND USE OF
15 FUNDS.—A law enforcement agency may not receive
16 or use any funds from a grant awarded under this
17 subsection.

18 (c) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT ALLOCATIONS.—In award-
19 ing grants under subsection (b), the Attorney General
20 shall allocate to eligible entities that are Tribal govern-
21 ments not less than 10 percent of the funds that are made
22 available to carry out that subsection.

23 (d) DATA COLLECTION.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall
25 collect the following data for the jurisdiction of an

1 eligible entity performing a demonstration project
2 with a grant under subsection (b) for each year dur-
3 ing which the eligible entity performs the demonstra-
4 tion project:

5 (A) Population characteristics, including
6 statistics on race, ethnicity, nationality, religion,
7 average and median income levels, and poverty.

8 (B) Average educational attainment.

9 (C) Employment rates.

10 (D) Housing market characteristics.

11 (E) Demographic characteristics of individ-
12 uals who are arrested, charged, and convicted of
13 crimes during the period of performance of the
14 demonstration project by the eligible entity.

15 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
16 date of enactment of this Act, and annually there-
17 after until the date on which each demonstration
18 project performed under subsection (b) is complete,
19 the Attorney General shall submit to the appropriate
20 congressional committees a report that includes—

21 (A) the total number of eligible entities
22 performing demonstration projects with a grant
23 under subsection (b);

1 (B) a description and status assessment of
2 each demonstration project described in sub-
3 paragraph (A); and

4 (C) the data collected under paragraph (1).

5 (e) EVALUATION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
7 the date on which the Secretary awards the first
8 grant under subsection (b)(1), and annually there-
9 after until the date on which each demonstration
10 project performed under subsection (b) is complete,
11 the Attorney General, in consultation with the heads
12 of other appropriate agencies, shall submit to the
13 appropriate congressional committees an evaluation
14 relating to the demonstration project performed by
15 each eligible entity receiving a grant under sub-
16 section (b).

17 (2) CONTENTS.—The evaluation required under
18 paragraph (1) shall include, for each eligible entity
19 performing a demonstration project with a grant
20 under subsection (b)—

21 (A) whether the demonstration project—

22 (i) has saved costs for the eligible en-
23 tity;

24 (ii) has contributed to a reduced inci-
25 dence of use of force by law enforcement

1 officers in the jurisdiction of the eligible
 2 entity; and

3 (iii) has contributed to improved rela-
 4 tions between community members and law
 5 enforcement agencies and officers in the
 6 jurisdiction of the eligible entity; and

7 (B) other appropriate analysis of the out-
 8 come of the demonstration project.

9 (3) USE OF DATA.—In preparing the evaluation
 10 required under paragraph (1), the Attorney General
 11 shall use the data collected under subsection (d).

12 (4) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The evaluation re-
 13 quired under paragraph (1) shall be publicly avail-
 14 able.

15 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
 16 are authorized to be appropriated—

17 (1) to carry out subsection (b) \$500,000,000;
 18 and

19 (2) to carry out subsections (d) and (e)
 20 \$100,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through
 21 2025.

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