

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 560

To amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. RICKETTS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security.

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 “EAGLES Act of  
5 2025”.

### 6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

8 (1) On February 14, 2018, 17 individuals were  
9 murdered in a senseless and violent attack on Mar-

1        jory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland  
2        Florida, a school whose mascot is the eagle.

3            (2) These individuals—Alaina Petty, Alex  
4        Schachter, Alyssa Alhadeff, Cara Loughran, Carmen  
5        Schentrup, Gina Montalto, Helena Ramsay, Jaime  
6        Guttenberg, Joaquin Oliver, Luke Hoyer, Martin  
7        Duque, Meadow Pollack, Nicholas Dworet, Peter  
8        Wang, Aaron Feis, Chris Hixon, and Scott Beigel—  
9        lived lives of warmth, joy, determination, service,  
10       and love, and their loss is mourned by the Nation.

11           (3) Like many attackers, the shooter in that at-  
12        tack exhibited patterns of threatening and con-  
13        cerning behavior prior to the massacre that were  
14        alarming and that should have alerted law enforce-  
15        ment and other Federal, State, and local officials  
16        about the potential for violence.

17           (4) Acts of targeted violence, including the at-  
18        tack on Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School,  
19        are preventable.

20           (5) Lives were saved because of the brave and  
21        exemplary conduct of many students, teachers, and  
22        staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, in-  
23        cluding several of the victims of the attack.

24           (6) The National Threat Assessment Center of  
25        the United States Secret Service (referred to in this

1 Act as the “Center”) was established in 1998 to  
2 conduct research on all forms of targeted violence,  
3 including attacks targeting government officials, gov-  
4 ernment facilities, workplaces, houses of worship, K-  
5 12 schools, universities, and mass attacks in public  
6 spaces.

7 (7) Research published by the Center on tar-  
8 geted violence has shown that—

9 (A) most incidents were planned in ad-  
10 vance;

11 (B) the attackers’ behavior gave some indi-  
12 cation that the individual was planning, or at  
13 least contemplating, an attack;

14 (C) most attackers had already exhibited a  
15 pattern of behavior that elicited concern by  
16 other people in their lives; and

17 (D) prior to the attack, someone associated  
18 with the attacker, such as a family member or  
19 peer, often knew the attack was to likely to  
20 occur.

21 (8) Through their research, the Center devel-  
22 oped the behavioral threat assessment model of the  
23 United States Secret Service for preventing targeted  
24 violence, which includes a 3-step process—

1 (A) identifying individuals who are exhib-  
2 iting threatening or concerning behaviors that  
3 indicate they may pose a risk of violence;

4 (B) assessing whether the individual poses  
5 a risk, based on articulable facts; and

6 (C) risk posed by the individualized  
7 proactive and preventive measures.

8 (9) The behavioral threat assessment model  
9 works of the United States Secret Service most ef-  
10 fectively when all the relevant parties, including local  
11 law enforcement, mental health professionals, work-  
12 place managers, school personnel, and members of  
13 the community, are part of a comprehensive protocol  
14 to identify, assess, and manage a potential threat.

15 (10) The primary goal of behavioral threat as-  
16 sessment programs is to prevent targeted violence,  
17 with an emphasis on providing early intervention  
18 and connecting individuals exhibiting threatening or  
19 concerning behavior to existing community resources  
20 for support.

21 (11) Early intervention is a proven and effective  
22 way to prevent violent conduct that would otherwise  
23 harm others and necessitate more punitive action,  
24 including criminal penalties.

1           (12) The parties involved need the appropriate  
2       research, guidance, training, and tools to establish  
3       the appropriate mechanisms for implementing this  
4       type of preventative approach.

5           (13) In K–12 schools, a behavioral threat as-  
6       sessment is a proactive approach to identify, assess,  
7       and provide age-appropriate interventions, resources,  
8       and supports for students who display behavior that  
9       elicits concerns for the safety of themselves or oth-  
10      ers.

11          (14) There has been a 79 percent decline in ju-  
12      venile arrests in K–12 school communities that have  
13      received training from the Center, thus successfully  
14      diverting youth away from the criminal justice sys-  
15      tem.

16          (15) The demand from local communities  
17      throughout the United States for behavioral threat  
18      assessment trainings has significantly increased.  
19      Since its inception, the Center has provided over  
20      2,575 training sessions to over 273,000 attendees.

21          (16) From fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022,  
22      the Center has experienced a 117 percent increase in  
23      demand for training sessions, with 5 times as many  
24      participants.

1           (17) The Center additionally provides consulta-  
2           tion and follow-up engagements with government  
3           agencies, law enforcement, schools, and other organi-  
4           zations with public safety responsibilities. From fis-  
5           cal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022 the Center has  
6           seen a 553 percent increase in consultation activi-  
7           ties.

8           (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
9           gress that a fact-based behavioral threat assessment ap-  
10          proach, involving local law enforcement, mental health  
11          professionals, workplace managers, school personnel, other  
12          public safety officials, and members of the community, is  
13          one of the most effective ways to prevent targeted violence  
14          impacting communities across the country, and is a fitting  
15          memorial to those whose lives were taken in the February  
16          14, 2018, attack on Marjory Stoneman Douglas High  
17          School and those who heroically acted to preserve the lives  
18          of their friends, students, and colleagues.

19       **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION AND EXPANSION OF THE NA-**  
20                               **TIONAL THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER OF**  
21                               **THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

22           (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 203 of title 18, United  
23          States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3056A  
24          the following:

1 **“§ 3056B. Functions of the National Threat Assess-**  
2 **ment Center of the United States Secret**  
3 **Service**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a National  
5 Threat Assessment Center (in this section referred to as  
6 the ‘Center’), to be operated by the United States Secret  
7 Service, at the direction of the Secretary of Homeland Se-  
8 curity.

9 “(b) FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the Center shall  
10 include the following:

11 “(1) Training and education in the area of best  
12 practices on threat assessment and the prevention of  
13 targeted violence.

14 “(2) Consultation on complex threat assessment  
15 cases and programs.

16 “(3) Research on threat assessment and the  
17 prevention of targeted violence, consistent with evi-  
18 dence-based standards and existing laws and regula-  
19 tions.

20 “(4) Facilitation of information sharing on  
21 threat assessment and the prevention of targeted vi-  
22 olence among agencies and organizations with pro-  
23 tective or public safety responsibilities, as well as  
24 other public or private entities.

25 “(5) Development of evidence-based programs  
26 to promote the standardization of Federal, State,

1       and local threat assessments and best practices for  
2       the prevention of targeted violence.

3       “(c) SAFE SCHOOL INITIATIVE.—In carrying out the  
4       functions described in subsection (b), the Center shall es-  
5       tablish a national program on targeted school violence pre-  
6       vention, focusing on the following activities:

7               “(1) RESEARCH.—The Center shall—

8                       “(A) conduct research into targeted school  
9                       violence and evidence-based practices in tar-  
10                      geted school violence prevention, including  
11                      school threat assessment; and

12                     “(B) publish the findings of the Center on  
13                     the public website of the United States Secret  
14                     Service and on the School Safety Clearinghouse  
15                     website, known as [www.SchoolSafety.gov](http://www.SchoolSafety.gov).

16               “(2) TRAINING.—

17                     “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall de-  
18                     velop and offer training courses on targeted  
19                     school violence prevention to agencies with pro-  
20                     tective or public safety responsibilities and  
21                     other public or private entities, including local  
22                     educational agencies.

23                     “(B) PLAN.—Not later than 1 year after  
24                     the date of enactment of this section, the Cen-  
25                     ter shall establish a plan to offer its training

1           and other educational resources to public or pri-  
2           vate entities within each State.

3           “(3) COORDINATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL  
4           AGENCIES.—The Center shall develop research and  
5           training programs under this section in coordination  
6           with the Department of Justice, the Department of  
7           Education, and the Department of Health and  
8           Human Services.

9           “(4) CONSULTATION WITH ENTITIES OUTSIDE  
10          THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.—The Center is au-  
11          thorized to consult with State and local educational,  
12          law enforcement, and mental health officials and pri-  
13          vate entities in the development of research and  
14          training programs under this section.

15          “(5) INTERACTIVE WEBSITE.—The Center may  
16          create an interactive website to disseminate informa-  
17          tion and data on evidence-based practices in tar-  
18          geted school violence prevention.

19          “(d) HIRING OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.—The Di-  
20          rector of the United States Secret Service may hire addi-  
21          tional personnel to comply with the requirements of this  
22          section, which, if the Director exercises such authority,  
23          shall include—

24                 “(1) at least 1 employee with expertise in child  
25                 psychological development; and

1           “(2) at least 1 employee with expertise in school  
2       threat assessment.

3       “(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than two  
4       years after the date of enactment of this section, the Di-  
5       rector of the United States Secret Service shall submit to  
6       the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on  
7       Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, and the Com-  
8       mittee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee  
9       on the Judiciary, the Committee on Education and Work-  
10      force, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House  
11      of Representatives a report on actions taken by the United  
12      States Secret Service to implement provisions of this sec-  
13      tion, which shall include information relating to the fol-  
14      lowing:

15           “(1) The number of employees hired (on a full-  
16      time equivalent basis).

17           “(2) The number of individuals in each State  
18      trained in threat assessment.

19           “(3) The number of school districts in each  
20      State trained in school threat assessment or targeted  
21      school violence prevention.

22           “(4) Information on Federal, State, and local  
23      agencies trained or otherwise assisted by the Center.

1           “(5) A formal evaluation indicating whether the  
2           training and other assistance provided by the Center  
3           is effective.

4           “(6) A formal evaluation indicating whether the  
5           training and other assistance provided by the Center  
6           was implemented by the school.

7           “(7) A summary of the Center’s research activi-  
8           ties and findings.

9           “(8) A strategic plan for disseminating the  
10          Center’s educational and training resources to each  
11          State.

12          “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
13          is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
14          \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.

15          “(g) NO FUNDS TO PROVIDE FIREARMS TRAIN-  
16          ING.—Amounts made available to carry out this section  
17          may not be used to train any person in the use of a fire-  
18          arm.

19          “(h) NO EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.—Nothing in this  
20          section may be construed to preclude or contradict any  
21          other provision of law authorizing training in the use of  
22          firearms.

23          “(i) TERMINATION.—This section shall terminate on  
24          September 30, 2030.

25          “(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           “(1) EVIDENCE-BASED.—The term ‘evidence-  
2       based’ means—

3           “(A) strong evidence from at least one  
4       well-designed and well-implemented experi-  
5       mental study;

6           “(B) moderate evidence from at least one  
7       well-designed and well-implemented quasi-exper-  
8       imental study; or

9           “(C) promising evidence from at least one  
10      well-designed and well-implemented correla-  
11      tional study with statistical controls for selec-  
12      tion bias.

13          “(2) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The term  
14      ‘local educational agency’ has the meaning given  
15      such term under section 8101 of the Elementary  
16      and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
17      7801).

18          “(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means any  
19      State of the United States, the District of Columbia,  
20      the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Is-  
21      lands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Common-  
22      wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”.

23      (b) TECHNICAL, CONFORMING, AND CLERICAL  
24      AMENDMENTS.—

1           (1) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMEND-  
2           MENT.—Section 4 of the Presidential Threat Protec-  
3           tion Act of 2000 (18 U.S.C. 3056 note) is repealed.

4           (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-  
5           tions for chapter 203 of title 18, United States  
6           Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating  
7           to section 3056A the following new item:

“3056B. Functions of the National Threat Assessment Center of the United  
States Secret Service.”.

