

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To establish a grant program to provide assistance to local law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish a grant program to provide assistance to local law enforcement agencies, 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 “Invest to Protect Act
5 of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

8 (1) DE-ESCALATION TRAINING.—The term “de-
9 escalation training” means training relating to tak-
10 ing action or communicating verbally or non-verbally

1 during a potential force encounter in an attempt to
2 stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of
3 the threat so that more time, options, and resources
4 can be called upon to resolve the situation without
5 the use of force or with a reduction in the force nec-
6 essary.

7 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
8 the Director of the Office.

9 (3) ELIGIBLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term
10 “eligible local government” means—

11 (A) a county, municipality, town, township,
12 village, parish, borough, or other unit of general
13 government below the State level that employs
14 fewer than 175 law enforcement officers; and

15 (B) a Tribal government that employs
16 fewer than 175 law enforcement officers.

17 (4) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term
18 “law enforcement officer” has the meaning given the
19 term “career law enforcement officer” in section
20 1709 of title I the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
21 Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10389).

22 (5) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Of-
23 fice of Community Oriented Policing Services of the
24 Department of Justice.

1 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within
2 the Office a grant program to—

3 (1) provide training and access to mental health
4 resources to local law enforcement officers; and

5 (2) improve the recruitment and retention of
6 local law enforcement officers.

7 (c) AUTHORITY.—Not later than 120 days after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall award
9 grants to eligible local governments as a part of the grant
10 program established under subsection (b).

11 (d) APPLICATIONS.—

12 (1) BARRIERS.—The Attorney General shall de-
13 termine what barriers exist to establishing a stream-
14 lined application process for grants under this sec-
15 tion.

16 (2) REPORT.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days
18 after the date of enactment of this Act, the At-
19 torney General shall submit to Congress a re-
20 port that includes a plan to execute a stream-
21 lined application process for grants under this
22 section under which an eligible local government
23 seeking a grant under this section can reason-
24 ably complete the application in not more than
25 2 hours.

1 (B) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan re-
2 quired under subparagraph (A) may include a
3 plan for—

4 (i) proactively providing eligible local
5 governments seeking a grant under this
6 section with information on the data eligi-
7 ble local governments will need to prepare
8 before beginning the grant application; and

9 (ii) ensuring technical assistance is
10 available for eligible local governments
11 seeking a grant under this section before
12 and during the grant application process,
13 including through dedicated liaisons within
14 the Office.

15 (3) APPLICATIONS.—In selecting eligible local
16 governments to receive grants under this section, the
17 Director shall use the streamlined application proc-
18 ess described in paragraph (2)(A).

19 (e) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible local govern-
20 ment that receives a grant under this section may use
21 amounts from the grant only for—

22 (1) de-escalation training for law enforcement
23 officers;

24 (2) victim-centered training for law enforcement
25 officers in handling situations of domestic violence;

1 (3) evidence-based law enforcement safety
2 training for—

3 (A) active shooter situations;

4 (B) the safe handling of illicit drugs and
5 precursor chemicals;

6 (C) rescue situations;

7 (D) recognizing and countering ambush at-
8 tacks; or

9 (E) response to calls for service involv-
10 ing—

11 (i) persons with mental health needs;

12 (ii) persons with substance use dis-
13 orders;

14 (iii) veterans;

15 (iv) persons with disabilities;

16 (v) vulnerable youth;

17 (vi) persons who are victims of domes-
18 tic violence, sexual assault, or trafficking;

19 or

20 (vii) persons experiencing homeless-
21 ness or living in poverty;

22 (4) the offsetting of overtime costs associated
23 with scheduling issues relating to the participation
24 of a law enforcement officer in the training de-
25 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (3), (9), and (10);

1 (5) a signing bonus for a law enforcement offi-
2 cer in an amount determined by the eligible local
3 government;

4 (6) a retention bonus for a law enforcement of-
5 ficer—

6 (A) in an amount determined by the eligi-
7 ble local government that does not exceed 20
8 percent of the salary of the law enforcement of-
9 ficer; and

10 (B) who—

11 (i) has been employed at the law en-
12 forcement agency for not fewer than 5
13 years;

14 (ii) has not been found by an internal
15 investigation to have engaged in serious
16 misconduct; and

17 (iii) commits to remain employed by
18 the law enforcement agency for not less
19 than 3 years after the date of receipt of
20 the bonus;

21 (7) a stipend for the graduate education of law
22 enforcement officers in the area of mental health,
23 public health, or social work, which shall not exceed
24 the lesser of—

25 (A) \$10,000; or

1 (B) the amount the law enforcement offi-
2 cer pays towards such graduate education;

3 (8) providing access to patient-centered behav-
4 ioral health services for law enforcement officers,
5 which may include resources for risk assessments,
6 evidence-based, trauma-informed care to treat post-
7 traumatic stress disorder or acute stress disorder,
8 peer support and counselor services and family sup-
9 ports, and the promotion of improved access to high
10 quality mental health care through telehealth;

11 (9) the implementation of evidence-based best
12 practices and training on the use of lethal and non-
13 lethal force;

14 (10) the implementation of evidence-based best
15 practices and training on the duty of care and the
16 duty to intervene; and

17 (11) data collection for police practices relating
18 to officer and community safety.

19 (f) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANT RECIPI-
20 ENTS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall establish
22 reasonable reporting requirements specifically relat-
23 ing to a grant awarded under this section for eligible
24 local governments that receive such a grant in order

1 to assist with the evaluation by the Office of the pro-
2 gram established under this section.

3 (2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing require-
4 ments under paragraph (1), the Director shall con-
5 sider the capacity of law enforcement agencies with
6 fewer than 175 officers to collect and report infor-
7 mation.

8 (g) DISCLOSURE OF OFFICER RECRUITMENT AND
9 RETENTION BONUSES.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
11 the date on which an eligible local government that
12 receives a grant under this section awards a signing
13 or retention bonus described in paragraph (5) or (6)
14 of subsection (e), the eligible local government shall
15 disclose to the Director and make publicly available
16 on a website of the eligible local government the
17 amount of the bonus.

18 (2) REPORT.—The Attorney General shall sub-
19 mit to the appropriate congressional committees an
20 annual report that includes each signing or retention
21 bonus disclosed under paragraph (1) during the pre-
22 ceding year.

23 (h) GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—All grants awarded by the
25 Director under this section shall be subject to the

1 accountability provisions described in this sub-
2 section.

3 (2) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

4 (A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the
5 term “unresolved audit finding” means a find-
6 ing in the final audit report of the Inspector
7 General of the Department of Justice that the
8 audited grantee has used grant funds for an
9 unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallow-
10 able cost that is not closed or resolved within
11 12 months from the date when the final audit
12 report is issued.

13 (B) AUDITS.—Beginning in the first fiscal
14 year beginning after the date of enactment of
15 this subsection, and in each fiscal year there-
16 after, the Inspector General of the Department
17 of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of
18 grants under this section to prevent waste,
19 fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The In-
20 specter General of the Department of Justice
21 shall determine the appropriate number of
22 grantees to be audited each year.

23 (C) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient
24 of grant funds under this section that is found
25 to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be

1 eligible to receive grant funds under this section
2 during the first 3 fiscal years beginning after
3 the end of the 12-month period described in
4 subparagraph (A).

5 (D) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an eligible local
6 government is awarded grant funds under this
7 section during the 3-fiscal-year period during
8 which the eligible local government is barred
9 from receiving grants under subparagraph (C),
10 the Attorney General shall—

11 (i) deposit an amount equal to the
12 amount of the grant funds that were im-
13 properly awarded to the grantee into the
14 General Fund of the Treasury; and

15 (ii) seek to recoup the costs of the re-
16 payment to the fund from the grant recipi-
17 ent that was erroneously awarded grant
18 funds.

19 (3) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the
20 fiscal year during which audits commence under
21 paragraph (2)(B), the Attorney General shall submit
22 to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Com-
23 mittee on Appropriations of the Senate and the
24 Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on

1 Appropriations of the House of Representatives an
2 annual certification—

3 (A) indicating whether—

4 (i) all audits issued by the Office of
5 the Inspector General of the Department
6 of Justice under paragraph (2) have been
7 completed and reviewed by the appropriate
8 Assistant Attorney General or Director;

9 (ii) all mandatory exclusions required
10 under paragraph (2)(C) have been issued;
11 and

12 (iii) all reimbursements required
13 under paragraph (2)(D) have been made;
14 and

15 (B) that includes a list of any grant recipi-
16 ents excluded under paragraph (2) from the
17 previous year.

18 (i) PROGRAM EVALUATION.—Not less frequently
19 than annually, the Attorney General shall analyze the in-
20 formation provided by eligible local governments pursuant
21 to the reporting requirements established under subsection
22 (f)(1) to evaluate the efficacy of programs funded by the
23 grant program under this section.

24 (j) PREVENTING DUPLICATIVE GRANTS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Director awards
2 a grant to an eligible local government under this
3 section, the Attorney General shall compare poten-
4 tial grant awards with other grants awarded by the
5 Attorney General to determine if grant awards are
6 or have been awarded for a similar purpose.

7 (2) REPORT.—If the Attorney General awards
8 grants to the same applicant for a similar purpose,
9 whether through the grant program under this sec-
10 tion or another grant program administered by the
11 Department of Justice, the Attorney General shall
12 submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the
13 Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
14 House of Representatives a report that includes—

15 (A) a list of all such grants awarded, in-
16 cluding the total dollar amount of any such
17 grants awarded; and

18 (B) the reason the Attorney General
19 awarded multiple grants to the same applicant
20 for a similar purpose.

21 (k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
23 not more than \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026
24 through 2030.