

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 124

To establish a grant program providing for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of body-worn cameras for law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a grant program providing for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of body-worn cameras for law enforcement officers, 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 “Camera Accountability
5 Maintenance and Transparency in Policing Act of 2017”
6 or the “CAM TIP Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. BODY-WORN CAMERA GRANTS.**

2 Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
3 Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 **“PART MM—BODY-WORN CAMERA GRANTS**

6 **“SEC. 3031. IN GENERAL.**

7 “From amounts made available to the Bureau of Jus-
8 tice Assistance, the Director of the Bureau of Justice As-
9 sistance may make grants to States, units of local govern-
10 ment, and Indian tribes for the acquisition, operation, and
11 maintenance of body-worn cameras for law enforcement
12 officers. In making such grants, the Director shall assess
13 the program proposed by the applicant for the elements
14 described in section 3033.

15 **“SEC. 3032. USES OF FUNDS.**

16 “Grants awarded under this part shall be—

17 “(1) distributed directly to the State, unit of
18 local government, or Indian tribe; and

19 “(2) used for the program described under sec-
20 tion 3033.

21 **“SEC. 3033. PROGRAM DESCRIBED.**

22 “The program described in this section is any pro-
23 gram implemented by a grantee requiring the use of body-
24 worn cameras by law enforcement officers in that jurisdic-
25 tion, which—

1 “(1) establishes policies and procedures for
2 when law enforcement officers should wear, activate,
3 and deactivate body-worn cameras;

4 “(2) ensures the protection of the civil liberties
5 of members of general public relating to the use of
6 body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers;

7 “(3) establishes policies limiting the use of re-
8 cordings of body-worn cameras to monitor the con-
9 duct of law enforcement officers outside of their
10 interactions, in an official capacity, with members of
11 the general public;

12 “(4) establishes or proposes to develop stand-
13 ards relating to the effective placement, on a law en-
14 forcement officer’s body, of a body-worn camera;

15 “(5) describes the best practices for receiving
16 an accurate narrative from the recordings of body-
17 worn cameras;

18 “(6) establishes policies for the collection and
19 storage of the recordings of body-worn cameras;

20 “(7) establishes policies relating to the avail-
21 ability of recordings of body-worn cameras—

22 “(A) to the general public;

23 “(B) to victims of crimes; and

24 “(C) for internal use by the law enforce-
25 ment agency; and

1 “(8) has in place guidelines and training
2 courses for law enforcement officers relating to the
3 proper management and use of body-worn cameras.

4 **“SEC. 3034. MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.**

5 “(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The portion of the costs of
6 a program provided by a grant under this part may not
7 exceed 50 percent. Any funds appropriated by Congress
8 for the activities of any agency of an Indian tribal govern-
9 ment or the Bureau of Indian Affairs performing law en-
10 forcement functions on any Indian lands may be used to
11 provide the non-Federal share of a matching requirement
12 funded under this subsection.

13 “(b) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share
14 of payments made under this part may be made in cash
15 or in-kind fairly evaluated, including planned equipment
16 or services.

17 **“SEC. 3035. FUNDING.**

18 “Grants under this part may be made using the funds
19 that are available under section 506(a)(1).”.

20 **SEC. 3. STUDY ON THE COST OF THE PURCHASE AND USE**
21 **OF BODY-WORN CAMERAS BY LAW ENFORCE-**
22 **MENT AGENCIES.**

23 (a) STUDY.—The Attorney General shall conduct a
24 study on the cost to State and local law enforcement agen-

1 cies of purchasing and using body-worn cameras or other
2 similar cameras, including gun-mounted cameras.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
4 of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall
5 submit to Congress a report that contains the results of
6 the study conducted under subsection (a).

7 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY**
8 **POLICING AND BODY CAMERA ACCOUNT-**
9 **ABILITY.**

10 There shall be established in the Department of Jus-
11 tice a task force to do the following:

12 (1) The task force shall be created to provide
13 recommendations on community policing, including
14 best practices for creating accountability and trans-
15 parency.

16 (2) Not later than one year after the date of
17 the enactment of this Act, the task force shall pro-
18 vide a report to the Congress, which shall include
19 the recommendations under paragraph (1).

20 (3) Membership shall include representatives of
21 civil rights organizations, Federal, State, and local
22 law enforcement personnel, and community policing
23 experts.

24 (4) The task force shall develop proper body-
25 worn camera training protocol.

1 (5) The task force shall study the impact that
2 citizen review boards could have on investigating
3 cases of alleged police misconduct.

4 (6) Not later than 1 year after implementation
5 of the body camera requirement policy under section
6 3033 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control Act of
7 1968, the task force shall conduct a survey to deter-
8 mine best practices and effectiveness of the policy
9 with findings to be reported back to the Congress.

10 **SEC. 5. GAO REPORT ON PENTAGON'S 1033 PROGRAM.**

11 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment
12 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
13 shall submit to the Congress a report on the Department
14 of Defense Excess Personal Property Program established
15 pursuant to section 1033 of the National Defense Author-
16 ization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 (Public Law 104–201),
17 that includes information on—

18 (1) which jurisdictions equipment is sent to;

19 (2) the value of equipment sent to each jurisdic-
20 tion;

21 (3) the level of training provided to officers;

22 and

23 (4) how the equipment is used in the jurisdic-
24 tion.

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