

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1833

To amend the Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to add gender-responsive services to the list of authorized grant purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2013

Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. MOORE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. ELLISON, and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## A BILL

To amend the Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to add gender-responsive services to the list of authorized grant 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; FINDINGS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Improving the Juvenile Justice System for Girls Act of  
6 2013”.

7 (b) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

1           (1) The proportion of girls entering the justice  
2 system has increased steadily over the past several  
3 decades, rising from 20 percent in 1980 to 30 per-  
4 cent in 2009. Most of these girls, up to 73 percent,  
5 have histories of physical and sexual violence, and  
6 their entry into the criminal and juvenile justice sys-  
7 tem is linked to their sexual and physical victimiza-  
8 tion.

9           (2) Girls' pathways into juvenile justice involve-  
10 ment are distinct from boys' pathways. Girls account  
11 for a much larger proportion of nonviolent status of-  
12 fenders than delinquency offenders (40 percent com-  
13 pared to 14 percent, respectively).

14           (3) A study by the Oregon Social Learning  
15 Center found the average reported age of first sexual  
16 encounter for girls in juvenile justice is 6.75.

17           (4) The trauma of untreated physical and sex-  
18 ual abuse results in lifetime consequences for girls.  
19 These consequences include a higher risk for a num-  
20 ber of negative social and health outcomes such as  
21 higher mortality rates, a variety of psychiatric prob-  
22 lems, dysfunctional and violent relationships, poor  
23 educational achievement, less stable work histories,  
24 increased risk for sexually transmitted diseases and  
25 early pregnancy, substance abuse or addiction, and

1 increased reliance on social services as compared to  
2 non-delinquent girls.

3 (5) A growing body of evidence suggests that  
4 girls who enter the juvenile justice system have  
5 equal if not higher rates of mental health issues  
6 than boys who enter the system.

7 (6) Current research and data have shown that  
8 gender-responsive, strength-based programming pro-  
9 viding trauma-informed care and trauma-specific  
10 services is the most effective means of preventing ju-  
11 venile offenses and reducing recidivism.

12 **SEC. 2. INCENTIVE GRANTS FOR LOCAL DELINQUENCY**  
13 **PREVENTION PROGRAMS.**

14 The second title V of the Juvenile Justice and Delin-  
15 quency Prevention Act of 1974 (relating to Incentive  
16 Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs, as  
17 added by Public Law 102–586 and amended by Public  
18 Law 107–273) is amended—

19 (1) by amending section 502 (42 U.S.C. 5781)  
20 to read as follows:

21 **“SEC. 502. DEFINITIONS.**

22 “In this title:

23 “(1) STATE ADVISORY GROUP.—The term  
24 ‘State advisory group’ means the advisory group ap-

1 pointed by the chief executive officer of a State  
2 under a plan described in section 223(a).

3 “(2) GENDER-RESPONSIVE SERVICES.—The  
4 term ‘gender-responsive services’ means promising  
5 practices or evidence-based services that—

6 “(A) comprehensively address the needs of  
7 girls in the juvenile justice system through the  
8 development or improvement of programs,  
9 treatment, counseling, and resources, and the  
10 selection and training of staff, in a manner that  
11 reflects an understanding of—

12 “(i) the unique pathways of girls into  
13 the juvenile justice system;

14 “(ii) the need for interventions that  
15 address common experiences of girls in the  
16 juvenile justice system, including histories  
17 of abuse, violence, broken family relation-  
18 ships, and substance abuse; and

19 “(iii) the social and cultural factors  
20 affecting girls in the juvenile justice system  
21 and girls who are at risk of entering the  
22 juvenile justice system; and

23 “(B) includes trauma-specific services.

24 “(3) TRAUMA-SPECIFIC SERVICES.—The term  
25 ‘trauma-specific services’ means services that—

1           “(A) address the neurological, biological,  
2           psychological, and social effects of trauma on  
3           the victims of trauma;

4           “(B) provide resources on trauma expo-  
5           sure, the impact or trauma, and trauma treat-  
6           ment to such victims;

7           “(C) engage in efforts to strengthen the  
8           resilience and protective factors of such victims;

9           “(D) include trauma-informed therapeutic  
10          interventions that are based on an under-  
11          standing of the vulnerabilities or triggers of vic-  
12          tims of trauma, and are designed to provide  
13          support to, and avoid re-traumatization of, such  
14          victims; and

15          “(E) emphasize continuity of care and col-  
16          laboration among the providers of services to  
17          such victims.”;

18          (2) in section 504 (42 U.S.C. 5783)—

19                 (A) in subsection (a)—

20                         (i) by striking “and” after the semi-  
21                         colon in paragraph (7);

22                         (ii) by redesignating paragraph (8) as  
23                         paragraph (9); and

24                         (iii) by inserting after paragraph (7)  
25                         the following:

1 “(8) gender-responsive services; and”; and

2 (B) in subsection (b)—

3 (i) in paragraph (2), by inserting “,  
4 including a description of how the funds  
5 made available under this section will in-  
6 crease the effectiveness of such plan and  
7 the activities to be carried out under such  
8 plan” before the semicolon; and

9 (ii) in paragraph (3), by inserting “,  
10 including a description of how the funds  
11 made available under this section will in-  
12 crease the effectiveness of such plan and  
13 the activities to be carried out under such  
14 plan” before the semicolon; and

15 (3) in section 505 (42 U.S.C. 5784), by striking  
16 “for fiscal years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and  
17 2008” and inserting “for each of the fiscal years  
18 2014 through 2019”.

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