

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 320

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a grant program for jurisdictions with high rates of violent crime.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 12, 2023

Mr. COHEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a grant program for jurisdictions with high rates of violent crime.

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 “Safer Streets Act of  
5 2023”.

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

7 Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe  
8 Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) is amended  
9 by adding at the end the following:

1    **“PART NN—GRANTS FOR JURISDICTIONS WITH**  
2                   **HIGH RATES OF VIOLENT CRIME**

3    **“SEC. 3201. IN GENERAL.**

4            “The Attorney General shall, each fiscal year, make  
5 grants to eligible units of local government and neighbor-  
6 hood or community-based organizations.

7    **“SEC. 3202. ELIGIBILITY AND INCENTIVES.**

8            “To be eligible for a grant under this part, a unit  
9 of local government or a neighborhood or community-  
10 based organization operating in a covered jurisdiction shall  
11 submit to the Attorney General information establishing  
12 that the rate of occurrence of violent crime within that  
13 jurisdiction is 2 times or more the national violent crime  
14 rate and that the population of that jurisdiction is  
15 100,000 or more. Of any amounts made available for  
16 grants under this part for a fiscal year—

17            “(1) 50 percent of such amounts shall be for  
18 grants, of an equal amount to each covered jurisdic-  
19 tion, to eligible grantees for which such rate of oc-  
20 currence is 4 times the national violent crime rate  
21 or higher;

22            “(2) 20 percent of such amounts shall be for  
23 grants, of an equal amount to each covered jurisdic-  
24 tion, to eligible grantees for which such rate of oc-  
25 currence is 3 times the national violent crime rate  
26 or higher;

1           “(3) 10 percent of such amounts shall be for  
2 grants, of an equal amount to each covered jurisdic-  
3 tion, to all other eligible grantees; and

4           “(4) remaining amounts shall be for emergency  
5 grants to such eligible grantees as the Attorney Gen-  
6 eral determines appropriate.

7 The Attorney General shall be responsible for awarding  
8 funds between units of local government and neighborhood  
9 or community-based organizations pursuant to each para-  
10 graph of this section.

11 **“SEC. 3203. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.**

12           “Not more than 10 percent of a grant made under  
13 this part may be used for costs incurred to administer  
14 such grant.

15 **“SEC. 3204. USE OF FUNDS.**

16           “Amounts made available as a grant under this part  
17 may be used by a grantee for law enforcement purposes  
18 or community violence prevention purposes including—

19           “(1) hiring additional law enforcement officers;

20           “(2) investing in surveillance equipment; and

21           “(3) prevention programs.

22 **“SEC. 3205. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.**

23           “Any unit of local government or neighborhood or  
24 community-based organization in a covered jurisdiction  
25 that experiences, for a fiscal year, an increase of 10 per-

1 cent in the rate of occurrence in violent crime over the  
2 preceding fiscal year, shall be eligible for an additional  
3 amount equal to 10 percent of the amount otherwise avail-  
4 able under this part.

5 **“SEC. 3206. DEFINITION.**

6       “The term ‘violent crime’ has the meaning given that  
7 term by the Attorney General for purposes of the Uniform  
8 Crime Reporting Program, for the fiscal year during  
9 which the grants are made.”.

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