

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5960

To direct the Attorney General to make grants to regional gang task forces to prevent violence committed by and against youths, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 24, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself and Mr. RUTHERFORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To direct the Attorney General to make grants to regional gang task forces to prevent violence committed by and against youths, 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 “Preventing Gang Vio-
5 lence Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION**
7 **GRANTS PROGRAM.**

8 (a) NAME OF PROGRAM.—The grant program estab-
9 lished under this section shall be known as the “Commu-
10 nity-Based Violence Prevention Grants Program”.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney General is au-
2 thorized to award grants, on a competitive basis, to re-
3 gional gang task forces in order to reduce and prevent vio-
4 lence committed by and against youths.

5 (c) APPLICATION.—A regional gang task force, or a
6 State or unit of local government on behalf of a regional
7 gang task force, seeking a grant under this section shall
8 submit to the Attorney General an application at such
9 time, in such manner, and containing such information as
10 the Attorney General may reasonably require. At a min-
11 imum, each such application shall include each of the fol-
12 lowing:

13 (1) Documentation of the applicant’s record of
14 addressing youth violence by—

15 (A) addressing multiple influences in a
16 child’s life, including individual, family, school,
17 community, and societal influences;

18 (B) embracing positive youth development
19 and well-being;

20 (C) ensuring prevention, intervention, and
21 treatment strategies are trauma-informed;

22 (D) using a comprehensive spectrum of
23 evidence-based (research and practice) strate-
24 gies;

1 (E) considering the differential impact on
2 populations and how they should be factored
3 into strategy development;

4 (F) involving stakeholders from various
5 sectors, including youth and families, Federal,
6 State, and local governments, tribal law en-
7 forcement, and faith and community-based or-
8 ganizations;

9 (G) training all professionals who interact
10 with youth on their role in preventing and re-
11 ducing trauma and violence, promoting well-
12 being, and avoiding retraumatization through
13 the use of gender-responsive and culturally
14 competent programming for impacted commu-
15 nities;

16 (H) making effective and appropriate use
17 of data;

18 (I) supporting long-term investment to sus-
19 tain initial changes, including public-private
20 funding and development; and

21 (J) allocating efforts and resources based
22 on potential impact and outcome.

23 (2) Evidence of collaboration between the State
24 agency designated by the Governor under section
25 223(a)(1) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency

1 Prevention Act of 1974 (34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(1))
2 and relevant stakeholders in developing the grant
3 implementation plan described in paragraph (5).

4 (3) Annual performance measures and targets
5 for the activities intended to be carried out with the
6 grant.

7 (4) A description of the applicant's plan to con-
8 duct a rigorous evaluation of the effectiveness of the
9 activities carried out with the grant.

10 (5) A grant implementation plan, including a
11 proposed strategy to reduce the violence described in
12 subsection (b) that is evidence-based.

13 (6) In the case of an applicant that is a State
14 or unit of local government, a designation of a re-
15 gional gang task force that will be the beneficiary of
16 the funds.

17 (d) EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—In evaluating an application
19 submitted under subsection (c), the Attorney Gen-
20 eral shall evaluate—

21 (A) the applicant's record of addressing
22 youth violence described in subsection (c)(1);

23 (B) the applicant's evaluation plan de-
24 scribed in subsection (c)(4); and

1 (C) the quality and likelihood of success of
2 the applicant's grant implementation plan de-
3 scribed in subsection (c)(5), including the appli-
4 cant's capacity to implement the plan, and evi-
5 dence of the collaboration described in sub-
6 section (c)(2).

7 (2) PUBLICATION.—The Attorney General shall
8 publish an explanation of how applications for
9 grants submitted under subsection (c) will be evalu-
10 ated in order to ensure an objective and fair review
11 process.

12 (e) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Federal share of a
13 grant received under this part may not exceed 75 percent
14 of the total program costs.

15 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
16 authorized to be appropriated to carry out the grant pro-
17 gram under this section \$18,000,000 for each of fiscal
18 years 2019 through 2023.

○