

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7487

To statutorily establish Operation Stonegarden, through which eligible law enforcement agencies shall be awarded grants for border security enhancement.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Ms. CARAVEO (for herself and Mr. FINSTAD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, and Oversight and Accountability, 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 statutorily establish Operation Stonegarden, through which eligible law enforcement agencies shall be awarded grants for border security enhancement.

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 TITLES.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Assisting Narcotics
5 and Trafficking officers in Interdicting Drugs Act” or the
6 “ANTI-Drugs Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. OPERATION STONEGARDEN.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XX of the
3 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)
4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 2010. OPERATION STONEGARDEN.**

6 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
7 Department a program, which shall be known as ‘Oper-
8 ation Stonegarden’, under which the Secretary, acting
9 through the Administrator, shall award grants to eligible
10 law enforcement agencies, through the State administra-
11 tive agency, to enhance border security in accordance with
12 this section.

13 “(b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—A law enforcement
14 agency is eligible to receive a grant under this section if
15 the agency—

16 “(1) is located in—

17 “(A) a State bordering Canada or Mexico;

18 or

19 “(B) a State or territory with a maritime
20 border; and

21 “(2) is involved in an active, ongoing, U.S. Cus-
22 toms and Border Protection operation coordinated
23 through a U.S. Border Patrol sector office.

24 “(c) PERMITTED USES.—Grant funds received under
25 this section may be used for—

1 “(1) equipment, including maintenance and
2 sustainment costs;

3 “(2) personnel, including overtime and backfill,
4 in support of enhanced border law enforcement ac-
5 tivities;

6 “(3) any activity permitted for Operation
7 Stonegarden under the Department of Homeland
8 Security’s most recent Homeland Security Grant
9 Program Notice of Funding Opportunity; and

10 “(4) any other appropriate activity, as deter-
11 mined by the Administrator, in consultation with the
12 Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protec-
13 tion.

14 “(d) PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary
15 shall award grants under this section to grant recipients
16 for a period of not less than 3 years.

17 “(e) REPORT.—For each of the fiscal years 2024
18 through 2028, the Administrator shall submit a report to
19 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
20 Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland
21 Security of the House of Representatives containing infor-
22 mation on the expenditure of grants made under this sec-
23 tion by each grant recipient.

24 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
25 is authorized to be appropriated \$110,000,000 for each

1 of the fiscal years 2024 through 2028 for grants under
2 this section.”.

3 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2002(a) of
4 the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 603(a)) is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary, through
7 the Administrator, may award grants under sections 2003,
8 2004, 2009, and 2010 to State, local, and tribal govern-
9 ments, as appropriate.”.

10 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
11 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is
12 amended by inserting after the item relating to section
13 2009 the following:

“Sec. 2010. Operation Stonegarden.”.

14 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF THE HIGH INTENSITY DRUG**
15 **TRAFFICKING AREAS PROGRAM.**

16 Section 707(p) of the Office of National Drug Con-
17 trol Policy Reauthorization Act of 1998 (21 U.S.C.
18 1706(p)) is amended to read as follows:

19 “(p) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
20 is authorized to be appropriated to the Office of National
21 Drug Control Policy \$400,000,000 for each of the fiscal
22 years 2024 through 2028 to carry out this section.”.

23 **SEC. 4. COPS GRANT PROGRAM.**

24 Section 1701 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
25 Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381) is amended—

1 (1) by striking subsection (m) and inserting the
2 following:

3 “(m) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the
4 date of the enactment of the ANTI-Drugs Act, the Attor-
5 ney General shall submit a report to Congress that in-
6 cludes a description of efforts made by the Office of Com-
7 munity Oriented Policing Services—

8 “(1) to improve and streamline the grant appli-
9 cation and solicitation process under this section to
10 increase applications for grants it administers from
11 eligible local governments, including—

12 “(A) local governments in rural areas; and

13 “(B) law enforcement agencies with fewer
14 than 200 sworn officers;

15 “(2) to address barriers in the grant application
16 and solicitation process that prevent eligible govern-
17 ments in rural and underserved areas from utilizing
18 the COPS Hiring Program and other grants it ad-
19 ministers; and

20 “(3) to conduct additional outreach and provide
21 technical assistance to eligible local governments in
22 rural and underserved areas to increase utilization of
23 grants it administers.”; and

24 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(o) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 is authorized to be appropriated to the Office of Commu-
3 nity Oriented Policing Services to carry out this part
4 \$665,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2024 through
5 2028.”.

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