

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 461

To allow Homeland Security Grant Program funds to be used to safeguard faith-based community centers across the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2017

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. HELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To allow Homeland Security Grant Program funds to be used to safeguard faith-based community centers across the United States, 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 “Faith-Based Commu-
5 nity Center Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 Title XX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
9 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 2001 (6 U.S.C. 601)—

2 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (6)
3 through (14) as paragraphs (7) through (15),
4 respectively; and

5 (B) by inserting after paragraph (5) the
6 following:

7 “(6) FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY CENTER.—The
8 term ‘faith-based community center’ means a facility
9 operated by a nonprofit faith-based community orga-
10 nization for the provision of recreational, social, or
11 education services to the general public.”; and

12 (2) in section 2008 (6 U.S.C. 609)—

13 (A) in subsection (a)—

14 (i) in paragraph (13), by striking
15 “and” at the end;

16 (ii) by redesignating paragraph (14)
17 as paragraph (15); and

18 (iii) by inserting after paragraph (13)
19 the following:

20 “(14) protecting a faith-based community cen-
21 ter or vulnerable populations, including children or
22 the elderly; and”; and

23 (B) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(g) PROTECTION OF FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY
25 CENTERS AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.—

1 “(1) ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS.—Of the
2 total amount authorized to be appropriated under
3 paragraph (3) for grants awarded for the purpose
4 described in subsection (a)(14), the Administrator
5 shall award—

6 “(A) 50 percent for the protection of faith-
7 based community centers and vulnerable popu-
8 lations in communities with a population of not
9 more than 1,000,000 individuals, as determined
10 by the latest available decennial census; and

11 “(B) 50 percent for the protection of faith-
12 based community centers in communities and
13 vulnerable populations with a population of
14 more than 1,000,000 individuals, as determined
15 by the latest available decennial census.

16 “(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of
18 a grant awarded for the purpose described in
19 subsection (a)(14) may not exceed 50 percent of
20 the total cost of a project and the non-Federal
21 share.

22 “(B) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—The non-
23 Federal share of project costs under a grant
24 awarded for the purpose described in subsection
25 (a)(14) may be paid in cash or in-kind from a

1 grantee or a nonprofit entity involved with the
2 project.

3 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 There are authorized to be appropriated
5 \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2017 to the Adminis-
6 trator to make grants for the purpose described in
7 subsection (a)(14).”.

8 **SEC. 3. FALSE INFORMATION AND HOAXES.**

9 Section 1038(a)(1)(A) of title 18, United States
10 Code, is amended by striking “5 years” and inserting “10
11 years”.

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