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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To establish within the Department of Health and Human Services a Division on Community Safety, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. BUSH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish within the Department of Health and Human Services a Division on Community Safety, 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; PURPOSES.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “The People’s Response Act”.

6 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to—

7 (1) catalyze, coordinate, and disseminate re-
8 search on approaches to community safety that re-

1 duce criminal legal contact while expanding oppor-
2 tunity, including a particular focus on groups that
3 have been disproportionately harmed by the criminal
4 legal system;

5 (2) support State governments, local govern-
6 ments, and community-based organizations in imple-
7 menting qualified approaches to community safety;

8 (3) mobilize and coordinate Federal resources
9 to advance qualified approaches to community safe-
10 ty;

11 (4) expand resources to holistically support sur-
12 vivors of mass incarceration, police violence, rape
13 and other forms of sexual assault, harm resulting
14 from detention or deportation, and other forms of vi-
15 olence and abuse; and

16 (5) expand resources to holistically support
17 marginalized communities, particularly Black and
18 Indigenous communities, to implement qualified ap-
19 proaches to community safety.

20 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) **COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER.**—The term
23 “community health worker” means a frontline public
24 health worker who—

1 (A) is a trusted member of, or has a close
2 understanding of, the community served, ena-
3 bling the worker to serve as a link between
4 health and social services and the community,
5 so as to facilitate access to services and improve
6 the quality and cultural competence of service
7 delivery; and

8 (B) builds individual and community ca-
9 pacity by increasing health knowledge and self-
10 sufficiency through a range of activities such as
11 outreach, community education, informal coun-
12 seling, social support, and advocaey.

13 (2) COMMUNITY LAND TRUST.—The term
14 “community land trust” means a community-based
15 organization that is designed to ensure community
16 stewardship of land and—

17 (A) is not sponsored by a for-profit organi-
18 zation;

19 (B) has a membership open to any adult
20 who resides in the particular geographic area in
21 which the organization operates; and

22 (C) provides low-cost land and housing
23 while maintaining community control over
24 neighborhood resources, including by acquiring
25 land that will be held in perpetuity so as to pro-

1 vide permanently affordable homeownership to
2 those who might not otherwise be able to afford
3 a home.

4 (3) FIRST RESPONDER.—The term “first re-
5 sponder” means an individual with relevant experi-
6 ence who responds to crises in a way that meets the
7 definition of qualified approaches to community safe-
8 ty.

9 (4) QUALIFIED APPROACH TO COMMUNITY
10 SAFETY.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “qualified ap-
12 proach to community safety” means, with re-
13 spect to a program or service, that the program
14 or service is established or provided in a man-
15 ner that is disconnected from carceral institu-
16 tions, including law enforcement, criminal
17 courts, prosecution, probation, child welfare
18 services, or immigration enforcement.

19 (B) DISCONNECTED FROM CARCERAL IN-
20 STITUTIONS.— For purposes of subparagraph
21 (A), the term “disconnected from carceral insti-
22 tutions” means having no relationship with re-
23 spect to administration, staffing, or funding, or
24 otherwise cooperating with, collaborating with,
25 or reporting to, any carceral institution in any

1 situation, except where the program or service
2 involved is bound to engage in such cooperation
3 or reporting by existing Federal, State, or local
4 law.

5 (5) PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING.—The term
6 “participatory budgeting” means a democratic en-
7 gagement process in which community members de-
8 liberate and decide directly how to allocate a portion
9 of a public budget.

10 (6) SAFETY NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—The term
11 “safety needs assessment” means a systematic,
12 participatory process for identifying the safety needs
13 in the local community. Such process shall include—

14 (A) soliciting input from persons who rep-
15 resent the broad interests of the local commu-
16 nity, including those who have been directly im-
17 pacted by arrest, incarceration, criminal super-
18 vision, immigration detention, or other criminal
19 legal system involvement;

20 (B) identifying the structural, systemic
21 factors that may lead community members to
22 feel unsafe or may increase the risk that com-
23 munity members may become involved with the
24 criminal legal system;

1 (C) identifying existing resources that are
2 potentially available to address those safety
3 needs as well as any other gaps in necessary re-
4 sources; and

5 (D) providing opportunities that allow peo-
6 ple meaningful opportunities to review, com-
7 ment on, and provide suggested modifications
8 to the draft assessment, such as through public
9 hearings, online publication, and a comment pe-
10 riod that allows sufficient time for community
11 feedback.

12 (7) STATE.—The term “State” means any
13 State of the United States, the District of Columbia,
14 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Is-
15 lands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern
16 Mariana Islands.

17 (8) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term
18 “unit of local government” means any city, county,
19 township, town, borough, parish, village, or other
20 general purpose political subdivision of a State.

21 **TITLE I—DIVISION ON**
22 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

23 **SEC. 101. DIVISION ON COMMUNITY SAFETY.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the
25 Department of Health and Human Services a Division on

1 Community Safety (referred to in this Act as the “Divi-
2 sion”). The Division shall be headed by an Assistant Sec-
3 retary for Community Safety (referred to in this Act as
4 the “Assistant Secretary”) who shall be designated by and
5 report directly to the Secretary of Health and Human
6 Services.

7 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Division shall have re-
8 sponsibility for overseeing activities that promote qualified
9 approaches to community safety, including—

10 (1) coordinating and carrying out other over-
11 sight activities with respect to the grant programs
12 established under title II;

13 (2) funding, conducting, coordinating, and pub-
14 licly disseminating the findings of, research into poli-
15 cies, programs, infrastructure, and other invest-
16 ments that serve to increase qualified approaches to
17 community safety, including through interdiscipli-
18 nary collaborations involving scholars, nonprofits,
19 and other nongovernmental actors;

20 (3) providing and funding technical assistance
21 to State and local governments to implement quali-
22 fied approaches to community safety;

23 (4) establishing—

24 (A) the Community Advisory Board under
25 section 102;

1 (B) the Federal Health Response Unit
2 under section 103;

3 (C) the Interagency Task Force under sec-
4 tion 104;

5 (D) the Community Safety Grant for com-
6 munity-led organizations under section 201;

7 (E) the Community Safety Grant for Local
8 Governments under section 202;

9 (F) the Community Safety Grant for
10 States under section 203; and

11 (G) the First Responder Hiring Grants
12 under section 204;

13 (5) coordinating, streamlining, and imple-
14 menting qualified approaches to community safety in
15 collaboration with the Assistant Secretary for the
16 Administration for Children and Families, Director
17 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
18 Administrator of the Health Resources and Services
19 Administration, Director of the Indian Health Serv-
20 ice, the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and
21 Substances Use, and other relevant agencies within
22 the Department of Health and Human Services;

23 (6) supporting and helping to coordinate inter-
24 agency initiatives that advance, streamline, and oth-

1 erwise implement qualified approaches to community
2 safety;

3 (7) administering grant programs that support
4 State governments, local governments, and commu-
5 nity-based organizations in implementing qualified
6 approaches to increasing community safety;

7 (8) providing to the public updates, findings,
8 and recommendations on qualified approaches to
9 community safety collected from the reports made by
10 recipients of grants under title II; and

11 (9) establishing and maintaining a complaint
12 system responsible for the resolution of complaints
13 from members of the general public regarding grant
14 funding for programs not compliant with the quali-
15 fied approaches to community safety standard.

16 **SEC. 102. COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Division shall establish an
18 advisory board to oversee the activities of the Division es-
19 tablished under section 101 and grant programs under
20 title II, to be known as the Community Advisory Board
21 (referred to in this Act as the “Advisory Board”).

22 (b) COMPOSITION.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall be
24 composed of individuals, to be selected by the Sec-
25 retary. Such members shall reflect the racial, reli-

1 gious, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, disability
2 status, immigration status, and other diversities of
3 the United States, including representation for
4 Black people, Asian-American people, Latinx people,
5 Indigenous people, lesbian, gay, bisexual,
6 transgender, and queer people, women, youth, dis-
7 abled people, undocumented and formerly undocu-
8 mented immigrants, and other groups that have
9 been disproportionately disadvantaged by the crimi-
10 nal legal system.

11 (2) REPRESENTATION.—The Assistant Sec-
12 retary shall ensure that a certain number of individ-
13 uals selected to serve as members of the Advisory
14 Board—

15 (A) have personal experience with the
16 criminal legal system, including—

17 (i) individuals who have been detained
18 or incarcerated;

19 (ii) individuals who are currently on
20 community supervision (such as probation
21 or parole) or who have been on community
22 supervision;

23 (iii) individuals who have been ar-
24 rested or cited by law enforcement;

1 (iv) individuals who have been directly
2 impacted by police violence or other forms
3 of violence, including domestic violence,
4 sexual assault, rape, and other forms of
5 sexual or intimate partner violence; and

6 (v) immediate family members of indi-
7 viduals who have been directly impacted by
8 police violence; and

9 (B) are advocates or grassroots practi-
10 tioners working to advance educational equity,
11 health equity, housing equity, environmental
12 justice, racial justice, gender justice, disability
13 justice, or Indigenous justice.

14 (3) PAY.—Members of the Advisory Board shall
15 serve at a rate of pay to be determined by the Sec-
16 retary.

17 (4) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The duties of the Ad-
18 visory Board are as follows:

19 (A) Approving annual priorities and fund-
20 ing for research and technical assistance and
21 evaluating, on an annual basis, research con-
22 ducted or supported by the Division and tech-
23 nical assistance provided by the Division.

24 (B) Based on the evaluations conducted
25 under paragraph (5), producing, and submitting

1 to the Administrator, annual recommendations
2 on the following:

3 (i) Whether activities conducted by
4 the Division adequately reflect the specific
5 needs and interests of all individuals, in-
6 cluding Black individuals, Asian-American
7 individuals, Latinx individuals, Indigenous
8 individuals, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and
9 transgender individuals, disabled individ-
10 uals, and other individuals who are mem-
11 bers of communities that have been dis-
12 proportionately impacted by the immigra-
13 tion and criminal legal system.

14 (ii) Whether funding made available
15 to the Division is sufficiently flowing to or-
16 ganizations that are led by individuals re-
17 ferred to in clause (i).

18 (iii) Changes that the Division could
19 make to address any issues uncovered dur-
20 ing such evaluations, including ways to en-
21 sure that grants awarded under this title
22 are serving to enhance racial equity and
23 benefit community-based organizations
24 that have diverse leadership and composi-
25 tion.

1 (5) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the
2 date on which the Division receives the recommenda-
3 tions under paragraph (4)(B), the Division shall
4 submit a report to Congress, which details—

5 (A) steps the Division has taken or will
6 take to implement the Advisory Board’s rec-
7 ommendations; or

8 (B) for any recommendations not imple-
9 mented or planned to be implemented, an expla-
10 nation as to why such recommendation was in-
11 feasible or conflicted with the Division’s statu-
12 tory obligations.

13 **SEC. 103. FEDERAL HEALTH RESPONSE UNIT.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
15 Human Services shall establish a Federal health response
16 unit, to be known as the “Federal Health Response Unit”,
17 which shall—

18 (1) respond, through a response unit trained in
19 accordance with training developed under paragraph
20 (2), to any public health emergency—

21 (A) declared by the Secretary of Health
22 and Human Services under section 319 of the
23 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d); or

1 (B) with respect to which the head of a
2 State public health agency makes a request to
3 the Secretary for assistance;

4 (2) develop, provide for the training of, and
5 hire, not fewer than 5,000 personnel to respond to
6 such an emergency;

7 (3) develop, and provide to States and units of
8 local government, guidelines for implementing quali-
9 fied approaches to community safety;

10 (4) develop and implement a plan to minimize
11 barriers to community health worker program par-
12 ticipation, such as by providing guidance and ensur-
13 ing the availability of local sources of community
14 health worker-led technical assistance on require-
15 ments for participation, including plans to prioritize
16 and build the capacity of community-based organiza-
17 tions and community health worker-led organizations
18 and associations within the State or region as eligi-
19 ble and preferred providers of community health
20 worker technical assistance;

21 (5) support local educational agencies as de-
22 fined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
23 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)
24 with resources, personnel and services that create
25 truly safe and inclusive schools;

1 (6) provide States and units of local govern-
2 ment with community health workers, including indi-
3 viduals who are trained in first response or violence
4 prevention, or both, and other personnel to improve
5 access to health services and address the public
6 health emergency described in paragraph (1) within
7 their respective jurisdiction; and

8 (7) coordinate with the commissioned Regular
9 Corps and Ready Reserve Corps under section 203
10 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 204),
11 the Medical Reserve Corps under section 2813 of the
12 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh-15),
13 and State-level agencies and crisis response teams.

14 (b) CONDITIONS.—The Secretary shall ensure that
15 each individual hired pursuant to this section shall be paid
16 a wage, which shall at least be the highest of the following:

17 (1) \$17 an hour.

18 (2) The minimum wage under the applicable
19 State or local minimum wage law.

20 (3) The prevailing rates of pay for individuals
21 employed in similar occupations by the same em-
22 ployer.

23 (4) The Federal minimum wage in effect under
24 section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of
25 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)).

1 **SEC. 104. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Health and
3 Human Services shall establish an interagency task force
4 (referred to in this Act as the “Task Force”) to coordinate
5 and promote holistic, qualified approaches to community
6 safety.

7 (b) MEMBERS.—The Task Force shall be composed
8 of the following members:

9 (1) The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
10 ices, or the designee of the Secretary.

11 (2) The Attorney General, or the designee of
12 the Attorney General.

13 (3) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-
14 opment, or the designee of the Secretary.

15 (4) The Secretary of Education, or the designee
16 of the Secretary.

17 (5) The Secretary of Labor, or the designee of
18 the Secretary.

19 (6) The Administrator of the Environmental
20 Protection Agency, or the designee of the Adminis-
21 trator.

22 (7) Other agencies, as determined necessary by
23 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

24 (c) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall:

25 (1) Conduct a comprehensive audit of all funds
26 allocated and programs supported by the Depart-

1 ment of Justice and other Federal agencies that
2 fund law enforcement, jails, prisons, and other de-
3 tention facilities, and other coercive or carceral ap-
4 proaches to public safety.

5 (2) Conduct a comprehensive audit that as-
6 sesses all Federal funds allocated to, as well as Fed-
7 eral programs supporting, initiatives that are in-
8 tended to enhance qualified approaches to commu-
9 nity safety, disaggregated by jurisdiction.

10 (3) Facilitate ongoing efforts to streamline the
11 application, monitoring, and reporting processes to
12 make Federal funds provided pursuant to any grant
13 made under this Act maximally accessible to small,
14 grassroots organizations that work to develop, imple-
15 ment, or evaluate qualified approaches to community
16 safety.

17 (d) MEETINGS.—For the purpose of carrying out this
18 section, the Task Force may hold such meetings, and sit
19 and act at such times and places, as the Task Force con-
20 siders appropriate.

21 (e) INFORMATION.—The Task Force may secure di-
22 rectly from any Federal agency such information as may
23 be necessary to enable the Task Force to carry out this
24 section. Upon request of the Chairperson of the Task

1 Force, the head of such agency shall furnish such informa-
2 tion to the Task Force.

3 (f) AGENCY REPORTS.—For the purposes of enabling
4 the Task Force to carry out the audits required under sub-
5 section (c), not less than once every six months—

6 (1) the Secretary of Education shall submit to
7 the Assistant Secretary a report that contains with
8 respect to each recipient of a grant awarded by the
9 Secretary a profile of such recipient and in the case
10 of any such recipient that is a State or unit of local
11 government—

12 (A) the needs of school health providers in
13 the relevant jurisdiction; and

14 (B) information on the applicable local
15 school population, including the largest barriers
16 to the safety of the school population (including
17 when school is not in session);

18 (2) the Attorney General shall submit to the
19 Assistant Secretary a report that contains with re-
20 spect to each recipient of a grant awarded by the
21 Secretary a profile of such recipient and in the case
22 of any such recipient that is a State or unit of local
23 government—

1 (A) the amount of grant funds awarded to
2 the jurisdiction under a grant administered by
3 the Attorney General;

4 (B) the recipients' progress in meeting the
5 purposes specified in section 1, including—

6 (i) the number of residents who are
7 being incarcerated, criminally supervised,
8 or otherwise confined in any coercive insti-
9 tutional structure and how these numbers
10 have changed over time;

11 (ii) the amount and type of any fines,
12 fees, or other financial obligations owed by
13 residents to any component of the criminal
14 legal system;

15 (iii) the amount and type of contact
16 that residents have with the criminal legal
17 system; and

18 (iv) racial disparities in arrest, incar-
19 ceration, criminal supervision, school dis-
20 cipline, and other areas that people may
21 contact the criminal legal system.

22 (g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 60 days
23 after the date on which the Task Force completes the au-
24 dits described in subsection (c), the Task Force shall sub-
25 mit a report to Congress, which summarizes—

1 (1) the contents of such audits; and

2 (2) any recommendations, based on such audits,
3 with respect to additional investments or policy
4 changes that would improve the implementation of
5 qualified community safety approaches and maxi-
6 mize community safety outcomes in all jurisdictions
7 served.

8 **SEC. 105. NON-DISCRIMINATION.**

9 No person in the United States shall, on the basis
10 of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin,
11 sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), or
12 disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the
13 benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under—

14 (1) any program or activity funded, in whole or
15 in part, with funds made available under this title;
16 or

17 (2) any other program or activity funded, in
18 whole or in part, with funds appropriated for grants,
19 cooperative agreements, and other assistance admin-
20 istered by the Assistant Secretary.

1 **TITLE II—GRANTS IN SUPPORT**
2 **OF COMMUNITY SAFETY**

3 **SEC. 201. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY GRANT**
4 **FOR COMMUNITY-LED ORGANIZATIONS.**

5 (a) GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary
6 of Health and Human Services (in this Act referred to
7 as the “Secretary”), shall award grants, on a rolling basis,
8 to community-based organizations that are designing, im-
9 plementing, monitoring, or otherwise supporting qualified
10 approaches to community safety, including as inter-
11 mediaries making subgrants to other local organizations
12 and community leaders who are leading qualified commu-
13 nity safety programming.

14 (b) APPLICATION.—A community-based organization
15 seeking a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
16 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
17 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

18 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
19 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to community-based
20 organizations that—

21 (1) serve, are located in, and directly employ
22 people who live in, communities that have been dis-
23 proportionately impacted by the immigration or
24 criminal legal system, as evidenced by high rates of
25 individuals who have been cited, arrested, or incar-

1 cerated in the year preceding the year for which the
2 application for such grant is submitted;

3 (2) are led by, or employ, individuals who have
4 been directly impacted by the criminal legal system,
5 including via arrests, incarceration, witnessing or
6 being victims of police violence, or having a family
7 member who was arrested, incarcerated, or a victim
8 of police violence;

9 (3) are led by individuals who have proven ties
10 to the community in which the organization oper-
11 ates;

12 (4) are located in, or primarily serve, Native
13 American communities on and off of reservations,
14 including Urban Indian (as defined in section 4 of
15 the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C.
16 1603)) communities; or

17 (5) have a leadership that reflects the racial di-
18 versity of the community in which the organization
19 operates.

20 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A community-based organiza-
21 tion receiving funds under this section shall use such grant
22 funds for any purpose that has demonstrable connection
23 to improving community safety through the use of quali-
24 fied approaches to community safety, including grant writ-

1 ing or funding that furthers one or more of the following
2 purposes:

3 (1) Crisis intervention, including unarmed first
4 responder agencies and 9–1–1 dispatchers for divert-
5 ing calls to first responders.

6 (2) Programs that interrupt or prevent violence,
7 including violence and abuse interruption and pre-
8 vention programs, neighborhood mediation pro-
9 grams, and safe passage to school programs.

10 (3) Participatory investments into the built en-
11 vironment, including park redevelopment,
12 streetlights, and public transportation.

13 (4) Public health activities and voluntary health
14 services, including harm reduction-based treatment
15 for mental health and substance use, hiring of com-
16 munity health workers, long-term supportive hous-
17 ing, lead abatement, pollution reduction, and nutri-
18 tion access, such as through establishing farmers
19 markets, nonprofit and employee-owned grocery
20 stores, and school-based nutrition programs.

21 (5) Housing security programs and initiatives,
22 including outreach programs, permanent supportive
23 housing, community land trusts and housing for in-
24 dividuals experiencing temporary or chronic home-
25 lessness.

1 (6) Support for youth and families, including
2 school-based counselors, trauma-informed practices,
3 youth and mentorship programs, after school and
4 enrichment programs, credible messenger in schools
5 programs, social-emotional learning programs, wrap-
6 around services, and two-generational programming.

7 (7) Support for victims, including survivors of
8 domestic violence, sexual violence, and rape, and tar-
9 geted services to help victims, witnesses, and sur-
10 vivors process trauma, achieve financial and housing
11 independence, make individualized, needs-based safe-
12 ty plans, and otherwise access the help that they
13 need.

14 (8) Reentry support for people who are exiting
15 incarceration or criminal supervision, including edu-
16 cational and workforce programs, stipends, housing
17 programs, and support for worker coops.

18 (9) Capacity building support to local advocates
19 and community-based organizations, including legal
20 assistance, and startup assistance for coops, commu-
21 nity land trusts, and nonprofit organizations.

22 (e) GRANT AMOUNTS.—In determining the amount
23 of a grant awarded to a single community-based organiza-
24 tion under this section, the Secretary shall base such de-
25 termination on—

1 (1) the number of people who will be served by
2 the program or intervention;

3 (2) the depth of need demonstrated, including
4 attention to specific activities planned, the socio-
5 economic characteristics of the community served by
6 the organization, and current patterns of criminal
7 legal involvement; and

8 (3) such other factors as the Secretary deter-
9 mines are relevant.

10 (f) LIMITATION.—Funds made available under this
11 section may be used only to carry out programs, services,
12 or activities that use qualified approaches to community
13 safety.

14 (g) REPORTING.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than
16 one year after the date on which a community-based
17 organization receives a grant under this section, and
18 annually thereafter, the organization shall prepare
19 and submit a report to the Secretary and Assistant
20 Secretary containing such information as the Sec-
21 retary may require, including—

22 (A) the use of grant funds;

23 (B) an estimation of the number of people
24 served through activities carried out using
25 grant funds, including demographic information

1 disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age, gender,
2 disability status sexuality, immigration status,
3 zip code, and socioeconomic status (where such
4 information is reasonably available and volun-
5 tarily provided); and

6 (C) any relevant feedback received by such
7 organization from the populations served by
8 such organization regarding—

9 (i) the efficacy of support from
10 sources other than programs and services
11 provided by such organization using grant
12 funds; and

13 (ii) additional resources and services
14 needed by such populations with respect to
15 improving community safety.

16 (2) PRIVACY.—The report submitted to the
17 Secretary and Division of Community Safety pursu-
18 ant to this section must protect the privacy of the
19 individuals served. All of the information gathered
20 as part of the reporting process shall be aggregated,
21 anonymized, and used only for the purposes listed in
22 this section and shall not be used to initiate or con-
23 tribute to any criminal, legal, immigration, or Child
24 Protective Services actions of proceedings, except
25 where such reporting is required by law.

1 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$4,000,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2024
4 through 2028.

5 **SEC. 202. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY GRANT**
6 **FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.**

7 (a) GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary
8 shall award grants, on a rolling basis, to units of local
9 government to assess safety needs, conduct research on,
10 fund programming on, and otherwise support the develop-
11 ment of qualified approaches to community safety.

12 (b) APPLICATION.—A unit of local government seek-
13 ing a grant under this section shall submit an application
14 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-
15 taining such information as the Secretary may require, in-
16 cluding an assurance that the unit of local government
17 shall develop, and submit to the Secretary, during the
18 grant period, a safety needs assessment to guide local in-
19 vestments in qualified approaches to community safety.

20 (c) PREFERENCE.—In awarding grants under this
21 section, the Secretary shall give a preference to a unit of
22 local government that—

23 (1) has taken steps toward, or is submitting
24 proposals within the application for such a grant for
25 purposes of—

1 (A) increasing human liberty, including
2 through measures that reduce incarceration,
3 pretrial detention, arrests, criminal supervision,
4 immigration detention, and other forms of
5 criminal justice involvement;

6 (B) ending the criminalization of poverty,
7 mental illness, homelessness, substance use, and
8 related issues by addressing root causes of
9 those issues rather than imposing criminal pun-
10 ishment and other punitive responses; or

11 (C) ending racial, economic, gender, and
12 other disparities in criminal punishment, includ-
13 ing discipline in schools;

14 (2) has a high rate of poverty, as well as dis-
15 proportionately high shares of residents who have
16 been impacted by violence and the criminal legal sys-
17 tem (as determined by the Secretary); or

18 (3) has prepared and developed the application
19 submitted under this section in consultation with the
20 community the unit of local government serves, espe-
21 cially individuals in such community who have been
22 directly impacted by the criminal legal system.

23 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A unit of local government re-
24 ceiving funds under this section shall use such grant funds
25 to:

1 (1) Establish or designate a community-led en-
2 tity that—

3 (A) employs qualified approaches to com-
4 munity safety; and

5 (B) can coordinate and make investments
6 in community safety, including by using
7 participatory budgeting or other community-led
8 processes.

9 (2) Develop a safety needs assessment and cre-
10 ate an action plan targeted to address such safety
11 needs.

12 (3) Invest in programs, interventions, or policy
13 initiatives that have a demonstrable connection to
14 improving community safety, including programs
15 interventions, or policy initiatives that are designed
16 to address needs related to economic stability, sur-
17 vivor safety, physical and behavioral health, environ-
18 mental safety, housing stability, and educational eq-
19 uity and opportunity such as those listed in section
20 201(d).

21 (4) Train and hire community health workers,
22 including individuals who are trained in first re-
23 sponse and violence prevention, who can help to ad-
24 dress such identified safety needs.

1 (5) Administer programming, including via
2 grants to community-based organizations and the di-
3 rect deployment of community health workers, to im-
4 plement the action plan.

5 (e) GRANT AMOUNTS.—In determining the amount
6 of a grant awarded to a State or unit of local government
7 under this section, the Secretary shall base such deter-
8 mination on—

9 (1) the number of people who live in the juris-
10 diction of the local government;

11 (2) the depth of need demonstrated, including
12 attention to activities planned, the socioeconomic
13 characteristics of the community and residents with-
14 in that jurisdiction, and current patterns of spend-
15 ing in systems of incarceration; and

16 (3) such other factors as the Secretary deter-
17 mines are relevant.

18 (f) LIMITATIONS.—

19 (1) Funds made available under this section
20 may be used only to carry out programs, services, or
21 activities that use qualified approaches to commu-
22 nity safety.

23 (2) Each State or unit of local government re-
24 ceiving a grant under this section shall certify to the
25 Secretary that any individual hired using funds re-

1 ceived through such grant will be paid a wage, which
2 shall be at least the highest of the following:

3 (A) \$17 an hour.

4 (B) The minimum wage under the applica-
5 ble State or local minimum wage law.

6 (C) The prevailing rates of pay for individ-
7 uals employed in similar occupations by the
8 same employer.

9 (D) The Federal minimum wage in effect
10 under section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Stand-
11 ards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)).

12 (g) REPORTING.—Beginning not later than one year
13 after the date on which a local government receives a
14 grant under this section, and annually thereafter, the unit
15 of local government shall prepare and submit to the Sec-
16 retary, and make publicly available, a report containing
17 information about—

18 (1) how the grant funds were used;

19 (2) the number of people who were cited, ar-
20 rested, or jailed by any State or local law enforce-
21 ment officers in the previous year in the jurisdiction
22 of the local government, as compared to the number
23 cited, arrest, or jailed during the term of the grant;

24 (3) the reasons for such citing, arresting, or de-
25 tained or imprisoned;

1 mation as the Secretary may require, including an assur-
2 ance that the State shall—

3 (1) establish or designate a State agency, de-
4 partment, or office equivalent to the Division on
5 Community Safety established under section 101, to
6 oversee and support the use of qualified approaches
7 to community safety statewide; and

8 (2) provide matching funds equal to the amount
9 of Federal funds received under the grant—

10 (A) to fund qualified approaches to com-
11 munity safety; and

12 (B) to provide an ongoing framework for
13 continued funding of such qualified approaches.

14 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
15 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to a State that meets
16 one or more of the same criteria specified in paragraphs
17 (1), (2), and (3) of section 202(c).

18 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A State receiving funds under
19 this section shall use such grant funds to—

20 (1) make grants to community-based organiza-
21 tions implementing one or more qualified approaches
22 to community safety, including as intermediaries
23 making subgrants to other local organizations and
24 community leaders who are leading qualified commu-
25 nity safety programming on these issues;

1 (2) fund local governments to undertake the ac-
2 tivities described in section 202(d); or

3 (3) fund education training for individuals who
4 are taking jobs that advance qualified approaches to
5 community safety.

6 (e) GRANT AMOUNTS.—In determining the amount
7 of a grant awarded to a single recipient under this section,
8 the Secretary shall base such determination on—

9 (1) the number of people who live in the State;

10 (2) the depth of need demonstrated, including
11 attention to activities planned, the socioeconomic
12 characteristics of the community, and current pat-
13 terns of involvement in the criminal legal system;
14 and

15 (3) such other factors as the Secretary deter-
16 mines are relevant; and

17 (f) LIMITATION.—Funds made available under this
18 section may be used only to carry out programs, services,
19 or activities that use qualified approaches to community
20 safety.

21 (g) REPORTING.—Beginning not later than one year
22 after the date on which a State receives a grant under
23 this section, and annually thereafter, such State shall pre-
24 pare and submit a report to the Secretary containing in-
25 formation about—

1 (1) how the grant funds were used;

2 (2) the number of people who were cited, ar-
3 rested, or jailed by State or local law enforcement
4 officers in the previous year, as compared to the
5 number cited, arrest, or jailed during the term of
6 the grant;

7 (3) the reasons for such citing, arresting, or
8 jailing; and

9 (4) demographic data of individuals cited, ar-
10 rested, or jailed or referred by State or local law en-
11 forcement officers, disaggregated by race, ethnicity,
12 age, gender, disability status, and socioeconomic sta-
13 tus.

14 (h) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—A State shall
15 use Federal funds received under this section only to sup-
16 plement the funds that would, without such Federal funds,
17 be made available from State and local sources, and not
18 to supplant such funds.

19 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
20 are authorized to be appropriated to implement this sec-
21 tion \$3,500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2024
22 through 2028.

23 **SEC. 204. FIRST RESPONDER HIRING GRANTS.**

24 (a) GRANT AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall
25 carry out a grant program under which the Secretary

1 makes grants to community-based organizations, health
2 departments, States, units of local government, Indian
3 tribal governments, other public and private entities, and
4 multi-jurisdictional or regional consortia for the purposes
5 described under subsection (b).

6 (b) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—A grant awarded
7 under subsection (a) may be used to—

8 (1) hire and train first responders;

9 (2) procure equipment, technology, support sys-
10 tems, or pay overtime, to increase the number of
11 first responders available to a community;

12 (3) increase the number of first responders in-
13 volved in activities that are focused on interaction
14 with members of the community on crisis response
15 and community violence and trauma prevention;

16 (4) provide education and training to first re-
17 sponders to enhance their conflict resolution, medi-
18 ation, problem solving, service, and other skills need-
19 ed to work in partnership with members of the com-
20 munity, including by programs that incentivize indi-
21 viduals to complete such education and training;

22 (5) develop and implement innovative programs
23 that support members of the community to work
24 with community-based organizations, emergency first
25 responders, and State, Tribal, and local officials in

1 community violence and trauma prevention efforts;
2 and

3 (6) establish school-based partnerships by em-
4 ploying and retaining first responders in pre-Kinder-
5 garten, elementary, and secondary schools to support
6 trauma-informed care and behavioral and mental
7 health services, and to operate school-based health
8 centers in local schools.

9 (c) LIMITATION.—

10 (1) Funds made available under this section
11 may be used only to carry out programs, services, or
12 activities that use qualified approaches to commu-
13 nity safety.

14 (2) Each entity that receives a grant under this
15 section shall certify to the Secretary that any indi-
16 vidual hired using funds received through such grant
17 will be paid a wage, which shall be at least the high-
18 est of the following:

19 (A) \$17 an hour.

20 (B) The minimum wage under the applica-
21 ble State or local minimum wage law.

22 (C) The prevailing rates of pay for individ-
23 uals employed in similar occupations by the
24 same employer.

1 (D) The Federal minimum wage in effect
2 under section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Stand-
3 ards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)).

4 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
6 \$2,500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2024
7 through 2028.

8 **SEC. 205. NON-DISCRIMINATION.**

9 No person in the United States shall, on the basis
10 of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin,
11 sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), or
12 disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the
13 benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under—

14 (1) any program or activity funded, in whole or
15 in part, with funds made available under this title;
16 or

17 (2) any other program or activity funded, in
18 whole or in part, with funds appropriated for grants,
19 cooperative agreements, and other assistance admin-
20 istered by the Assistant Secretary.