

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2696

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to provide grants to community mental health centers for the placement of social workers with law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2019

Mr. HARDER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to provide grants to community mental health centers for the placement of social workers with law enforcement agencies, 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 “Supporting the Health
5 and Safety of Law Enforcement Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.**

7 Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment
8 of this Act, the Attorney General shall establish a pilot

1 program to provide grants to community mental health
2 centers for the placement of social workers with law en-
3 forcement agencies to facilitate closer coordination on law
4 enforcement issues with an underlying connection to men-
5 tal health.

6 **SEC. 3. NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS.**

7 The Attorney General shall award not more than 4
8 grants each fiscal year to community mental health cen-
9 ters (as such term is defined in section 1861 of the Social
10 Security Act) in each of the 4 census regions. Each such
11 grant shall be in an amount not to exceed \$300,000. The
12 term of such a grant shall be 3 years. Each such mental
13 health center shall partner with a law enforcement agency
14 that employs not more than 100 officers in order to carry
15 out the purposes of the grant.

16 **SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY FOR PLACEMENT WITH A LAW EN-**
17 **FORCEMENT AGENCY.**

18 To be eligible for placement with a law enforcement
19 agency under this Act, a social worker shall be—

- 20 (1) licensed under the applicable State law; and
21 (2) employed by a community mental health
22 center.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this Act \$2,500,000 for fiscal years 2020, 2021, and
4 2022.

5 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION OF PROGRAM; REPORT TO CON-**
6 **GRESS.**

7 This Act is repealed on the date that is 3 years after
8 a grant is first made under this Act. The Attorney General
9 shall report to Congress not later than six months there-
10 after on the outcomes of any cases where the social worker
11 became involved and the total number of such cases, and
12 any other information deemed relevant.

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