

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 494

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to reauthorize the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 11, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to reauthorize the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program, 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 “Tiffany Joslyn Juve-  
5 nile Accountability Block Grant Program Reauthorization  
6 Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY**  
2 **BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 Part R of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and  
4 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796ee et seq.) is  
5 amended—

6 (1) in section 1801(b)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “grad-  
8 uated sanctions” and inserting “graduated  
9 sanctions and incentives”;

10 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “hiring  
11 juvenile court judges, probation officers, and  
12 court-appointed defenders and special advo-  
13 cates, and”;

14 (C) by striking paragraphs (4) and (7),  
15 and redesignating paragraphs (5) through (17)  
16 as paragraphs (4) through (15), respectively;  
17 and

18 (D) in paragraph (11), as so redesignated,  
19 by striking “research-based bullying, cyberbully-  
20 ing, and gang prevention programs” and insert-  
21 ing “interventions such as researched-based  
22 anti-bullying, anti-cyberbullying, and gang pre-  
23 vention programs, as well as mental health  
24 services and trauma-informed practices”;

25 (2) in section 1802—

1 (A) in subsection (d)(3), by inserting after  
2 “individualized sanctions” the following: “, in-  
3 centives,”;

4 (B) in subsection (e)(1)(B), by striking  
5 “graduated sanctions” and inserting “grad-  
6 uated sanctions and incentives”; and

7 (C) in subsection (f)—

8 (i) in paragraph (2)—

9 (I) by inserting after “A sanction  
10 may include” the following: “a range  
11 of court-approved interventions, such  
12 as”; and

13 (II) by inserting after “a fine,”  
14 the following: “a restorative justice  
15 program,”; and

16 (ii) by inserting after paragraph (2)  
17 the following:

18 “(3) INCENTIVES.—The term ‘incentives’  
19 means individualized, goal-oriented, and graduated  
20 responses to a juvenile offender’s compliance with  
21 court orders and case disposition terms designed to  
22 reinforce or modify the skills and behaviors of the  
23 juvenile offender. An incentive may include a certifi-  
24 cate of achievement, a letter of recommendation, a  
25 family or program activity, a meeting or special out-

1 ing with a community leader, a reduction in commu-  
 2 nity service hours, a reduced curfew or home restric-  
 3 tion, a decrease in required court appearances, or a  
 4 decrease in the term of court-ordered supervision.”;

5 (3) in section 1810(a), by striking  
 6 “\$350,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2006 through  
 7 2009” and inserting “\$30,000,000 for each of fiscal  
 8 years 2019 through 2023”; and

9 (4) by adding at the end the following:

10 **“SEC. 1811. GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY.**

11 “(a) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE COMMITTEES.—In  
 12 this section, the term ‘applicable committees’ means—

13 “(1) the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
 14 Senate; and

15 “(2) the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
 16 House of Representatives.

17 “(b) ACCOUNTABILITY.—All grants awarded by the  
 18 Attorney General under this part shall be subject to the  
 19 following accountability provisions:

20 “(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

21 “(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the  
 22 term ‘unresolved audit finding’ means a finding  
 23 in the final audit report of the Inspector Gen-  
 24 eral of the Department of Justice that the au-  
 25 dited grantee has utilized grant funds for an

1 unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallow-  
2 able cost that is not closed or resolved within  
3 12 months after the date on which the final  
4 audit report is issued.

5 “(B) AUDIT.—Beginning in the first fiscal  
6 year beginning after the date of enactment of  
7 this section, and in each fiscal year thereafter,  
8 the Inspector General of the Department of  
9 Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of  
10 grants awarded by the Attorney General under  
11 this part to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of  
12 funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall  
13 determine the appropriate number of grantees  
14 to be audited each year.

15 “(C) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipi-  
16 ent of grant funds under this part that is found  
17 to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be  
18 eligible to receive grant funds under this part  
19 during the first 2 fiscal years beginning after  
20 the end of the 12-month period described in  
21 subparagraph (A).

22 “(D) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants  
23 under this part, the Attorney General shall give  
24 priority to eligible applicants that did not have  
25 an unresolved audit finding during the 3 fiscal

1 years before submitting an application for a  
2 grant under this part.

3 “(E) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is  
4 awarded grant funds under this part during the  
5 2-fiscal-year period during which the entity is  
6 barred from receiving grants under subpara-  
7 graph (C), the Attorney General shall—

8 “(i) deposit an amount equal to the  
9 amount of the grant funds that were im-  
10 properly awarded to the grantee into the  
11 General Fund of the Treasury; and

12 “(ii) seek to recoup the costs of the  
13 repayment to the fund from the grant re-  
14 cipient that was erroneously awarded grant  
15 funds.

16 “(2) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in  
17 the first fiscal year beginning after the date of en-  
18 actment of this section, the Attorney General shall  
19 submit to the applicable committees an annual cer-  
20 tification—

21 “(A) indicating whether—

22 “(i) all audits issued by the Inspector  
23 General of the Department of Justice  
24 under paragraph (1) have been completed

1 and reviewed by the appropriate Assistant  
2 Attorney General or Director;

3 “(ii) all mandatory exclusions required  
4 under paragraph (1)(C) have been issued;  
5 and

6 “(iii) all reimbursements required  
7 under paragraph (1)(E) have been made;  
8 and

9 “(B) that includes a list of any grant re-  
10 cipients excluded under paragraph (1) from the  
11 previous year.

12 “(c) PREVENTING DUPLICATIVE GRANTS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Attorney Gen-  
14 eral awards a grant to an applicant under this part,  
15 the Attorney General shall compare potential grant  
16 awards with other grants awarded under this part  
17 by the Attorney General to determine if duplicate  
18 grant awards are awarded for the same purpose.

19 “(2) REPORT.—If the Attorney General awards  
20 duplicate grants under this part to the same appli-  
21 cant for the same purpose, the Attorney General  
22 shall submit to the applicable committees a report  
23 that includes—

1           “(A) a list of all duplicate grants awarded  
 2           under this part, including the total dollar  
 3           amount of any duplicate grants awarded; and

4           “(B) the reason the Attorney General  
 5           awarded the duplicate grants.”.

6 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7           It is the sense of the Congress that the use of best  
 8           practices is encouraged for all activities for which grants  
 9           under part R of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and  
 10          Safe Streets Act of 1968 may be used.

11 **SEC. 4. USE OF AMOUNTS MADE AVAILABLE FOR DEPART-**  
 12                   **MENT OF JUSTICE, GENERAL ADMINISTRA-**  
 13                   **TION TO CARRY OUT JUVENILE ACCOUNT-**  
 14                   **ABILITY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.**

15          In each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023, the Attor-  
 16          ney General shall use up to \$30,000,000 of the amounts  
 17          made available for Department of Justice, General Admin-  
 18          istration, to carry out part R of title I of the Omnibus  
 19          Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.  
 20          3796ee et seq.).

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