

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4289

To require Federal law enforcement agencies to report on cases of missing or murdered Indians, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

Ms. HAALAND (for herself, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. COLE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. COOK, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Ms. MOORE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Energy and Commerce, and Oversight and Reform, 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 require Federal law enforcement agencies to report on cases of missing or murdered Indians, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Bridging Agency Data Gaps and Ensuring Safety for
6 Native Communities Act” or the “BADGES for Native
7 Communities Act”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—BRIDGING AGENCY DATA GAPS

Sec. 101. Federal law enforcement database reporting requirements.
 Sec. 102. National Missing and Unidentified Persons System Tribal liaison.
 Sec. 103. Law enforcement data sharing with Indian tribes.
 Sec. 104. Report on Indian country law enforcement personnel resources and
 need.

TITLE II—ENSURING SAFETY FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES

Sec. 201. Demonstration program on Bureau of Indian Affairs law enforcement
 employment background checks.
 Sec. 202. Missing and murdered response coordination grant program.
 Sec. 203. GAO study on Federal law enforcement agency evidence collection,
 handling, and processing.
 Sec. 204. Bureau of Indian Affairs and Tribal law enforcement officer coun-
 seling resources interdepartmental coordination.

3 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
 6 the Director of the Office of Justice Services.

7 (2) FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—
 8 The term “Federal law enforcement agency” means
 9 the Bureau of Indian Affairs direct-service police,
 10 the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any other
 11 Federal law enforcement agency that—

12 (A) has jurisdiction over crimes in Indian
 13 country; or

14 (B) investigates missing persons cases of
 15 interest to Indian tribes, murder cases of inter-

1 est to Indian tribes, or unidentified remains
2 cases of interest to Indian tribes.

3 (3) INDIAN.—The term “Indian” has the mean-
4 ing given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-
5 Determination and Education Assistance Act (25
6 U.S.C. 5304).

7 (4) INDIAN COUNTRY.—The term “Indian coun-
8 try” has the meaning given the term in section 1151
9 of title 18, United States Code.

10 (5) INDIAN LAND.—The term “Indian land”
11 has the meaning given the term “Indian lands” in
12 section 3 of the Native American Business Develop-
13 ment, Trade Promotion, and Tourism Act of 2000
14 (25 U.S.C. 4302).

15 (6) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”
16 has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the
17 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance
18 Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

19 (7) MANSLAUGHTER.—The term “man-
20 slaughter” has the meaning given the term in sec-
21 tion 1112 of title 18, United States Code.

22 (8) MISSING.—The term “missing” has the
23 meaning determined by the applicable Federal law
24 enforcement agency.

1 (9) MISSING PERSONS CASE OF INTEREST TO
2 INDIAN TRIBES.—The term “missing persons case of
3 interest to Indian tribes” means a case involving—

4 (A) a missing Indian; or

5 (B) a missing person whose last known lo-
6 cation is believed to be on, in, or near Indian
7 land.

8 (10) MURDER.—The term “murder” has the
9 meaning given the term in section 1111 of title 18,
10 United States Code.

11 (11) MURDER CASE OF INTEREST TO INDIAN
12 TRIBES.—The term “murder case of interest to In-
13 dian tribes” means a case involving—

14 (A) a murdered Indian; or

15 (B) a person murdered on, in, or near In-
16 dian land.

17 (12) MURDERED.—The term “murdered”, with
18 respect to a person, means the person was the victim
19 of—

20 (A) murder; or

21 (B) manslaughter.

22 (13) NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION DATA-
23 BASES.—The term “national crime information
24 databases” has the meaning given the term in sec-
25 tion 534(f)(3) of title 28, United States Code.

1 (14) RELEVANT TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The
2 term “relevant tribal organization” means, as appli-
3 cable—

4 (A) a tribal organization; and

5 (B) a national or regional organization
6 that—

7 (i) represents a substantial Indian
8 constituency; and

9 (ii) has expertise in the fields of—

10 (I) human trafficking of Indians;

11 (II) human trafficking on Indian
12 lands;

13 (III) violence against Indian
14 women and children; or

15 (IV) Tribal justice systems.

16 (15) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
17 means the Secretary of the Interior.

18 (16) TRIBAL JUSTICE OFFICIAL.—The term
19 “tribal justice official” has the meaning given the
20 term in section 2 of the Indian Law Enforcement
21 Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2801).

22 (17) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “tribal
23 organization” has the meaning given the term in
24 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
25 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(18) UNIDENTIFIED REMAINS CASE OF INTEREST TO INDIAN TRIBES.—The term “unidentified remains case of interest to Indian tribes” means a case involving—

(A) unidentified Indian remains; or

(B) unidentified remains found on, in, or near Indian land.

TITLE I—BRIDGING AGENCY DATA GAPS

SEC. 101. FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT DATABASE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 151(a) of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. 20961(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System, to be used by a person accessing the System only within the scope of the work of the person in assisting or supporting law enforcement

1 efforts to solve missing, unidentified, and unclaimed
2 person cases across the United States; and”.

3 (b) SHARING OF INFORMATION.—Not later than 2
4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney
5 General shall, in a manner that maintains the integrity
6 of confidential, private, and law enforcement sensitive in-
7 formation, provide for information on missing persons and
8 unidentified remains contained in national crime informa-
9 tion databases to be transmitted to, entered in, and other-
10 wise shared with the National Missing and Unidentified
11 Persons System.

12 (c) TEMPORARY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Until
13 such time as the data sharing procedures required under
14 subsection (b) are in effect, each Federal law enforcement
15 agency shall enter into the National Missing and Unidenti-
16 fied Persons System each missing persons case of interest
17 to Indian tribes and each unidentified remains case of in-
18 terest to Indian tribes reported to or investigated by the
19 Federal law enforcement agency.

20 (d) COORDINATION WITH NAMUS TRIBAL LIAI-
21 SON.—The Director and the Director of the Federal Bu-
22 reau of Investigation shall each appoint a liaison to coordi-
23 nate with the one or more Tribal liaisons appointed under
24 section (4)(a) to ensure that—

1 (1) all missing persons cases of interest to In-
2 dian tribes and all unidentified remains cases of in-
3 terest to Indian tribes are fully captured in the Na-
4 tional Missing and Unidentified Persons System;
5 and

6 (2) Indian tribes are aware of, and able to ac-
7 cess, information in the National Missing and Un-
8 identified Persons System.

9 **SEC. 102. NATIONAL MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS**

10 **SYSTEM TRIBAL LIAISON.**

11 (a) APPOINTMENT.—The Attorney General, acting
12 through the Director of the National Institute of Justice,
13 shall appoint one or more Tribal liaisons for the National
14 Missing and Unidentified Persons System.

15 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of a Tribal liaison ap-
16 pointed under subsection (a) shall include—

17 (1) coordinating the reporting of information
18 relating to missing persons cases of interest to In-
19 dian tribes and unidentified remains cases of inter-
20 est to Indian tribes;

21 (2) consulting and coordinating with Indian
22 tribes and relevant tribal organizations to address
23 the reporting, documentation, and tracking of miss-
24 ing persons cases of interest to Indian tribes and un-
25 identified remains cases of interest to Indian tribes;

1 (3) developing working relationships, and main-
2 taining communication, with Indian tribes and rel-
3 evant tribal organizations;

4 (4) providing technical assistance and training
5 to Indian tribes and relevant tribal organizations,
6 victim service advocates, medical examiners, and
7 tribal justice officials regarding—

8 (A) the gathering and reporting of infor-
9 mation to the National Missing and Unidenti-
10 fied Persons System; and

11 (B) working with non-Tribal law enforce-
12 ment agencies to ensure all missing persons
13 cases of interest to Indian tribes and unidenti-
14 fied remains cases of interest to Indian tribes
15 are reported to the National Missing and Un-
16 identified Persons System;

17 (5) coordinating with the Office of Tribal Jus-
18 tice and the Office of Justice Services, as necessary;
19 and

20 (6) conducting other training, information gath-
21 ering, and outreach activities to improve resolution
22 of missing persons cases of interest to Indian tribes
23 and unidentified remains cases of interest to Indian
24 tribes.

25 (c) REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY.—

1 (1) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—During
2 the 3-year period beginning on the date of enact-
3 ment of this Act, the Attorney General, acting
4 through the Director of the National Institute of
5 Justice, shall submit to the Committees on Indian
6 Affairs and the Judiciary of the Senate and the
7 Committees on Natural Resources and the Judiciary
8 of the House of Representatives an annual report—

9 (A) describing the activities and accom-
10 plishments of the one or more Tribal liaisons
11 appointed under subsection (a) during the 1-
12 year period preceding the date of the report;
13 and

14 (B) summarizing—

15 (i) the number of missing persons
16 cases of interest to Indian tribes and un-
17 identified remains cases of interest to In-
18 dian tribes listed in the National Missing
19 and Unidentified Persons System;

20 (ii) the percentage of missing persons
21 cases of interest to Indian tribes and un-
22 identified remains cases of interest to In-
23 dian tribes closed during the 1-year period
24 preceding the date of the report; and

25 (iii) the reasons for those closures.

1 (2) PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY.—Annually, the At-
2 torney General, acting through the Director of the
3 National Institute of Justice, shall publish on a
4 website publicly accessible information—

5 (A) describing the activities and accom-
6 plishments of the one or more Tribal liaisons
7 appointed under subsection (a) during the 1-
8 year period preceding the date of the publica-
9 tion; and

10 (B) summarizing—

11 (i) the number of missing persons
12 cases of interest to Indian tribes and un-
13 identified remains cases of interest to In-
14 dian tribes listed in the National Missing
15 and Unidentified Persons System;

16 (ii) the percentage of missing persons
17 cases of interest to Indian tribes and un-
18 identified remains cases of interest to In-
19 dian tribes closed during the 1-year period
20 preceding the date of the report; and

21 (iii) the reasons for those closures.

22 **SEC. 103. LAW ENFORCEMENT DATA SHARING WITH INDIAN**
23 **TRIBES.**

24 (a) ACCESS TO NATIONAL CRIME INFORMATION
25 DATABASES BY TRIBES.—Section 233(b) of the Tribal

1 Law and Order Act of 2010 (34 U.S.C. 41107) is amend-
2 ed—

3 (1) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the
4 following:

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall
6 ensure that—

7 “(A) tribal law enforcement officials that
8 meet applicable Federal or State requirements
9 shall be permitted access to national crime in-
10 formation databases;

11 “(B) technical assistance and training is
12 provided to Bureau of Indian Affairs and tribal
13 law enforcement agencies to gain access to, and
14 the ability to use and input information into,
15 the National Crime Information Center and
16 other national crime information databases pur-
17 suant to section 534 of title 28, United States
18 Code; and

19 “(C) the Federal Bureau of Investigation
20 coordinates with the Office of Justice Services
21 to ensure tribal law enforcement agencies are
22 assigned appropriate credentials or ORI num-
23 bers for uniform crime reporting purposes.”;
24 and

1 (2) in paragraph (3), by striking “with criminal
2 jurisdiction over Indian country”.

3 (b) ACQUISITION, PRESERVATION, AND EXCHANGE
4 OF IDENTIFICATION RECORDS AND INFORMATION.—Sec-
5 tion 534(d) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as
7 subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and indent-
8 ing appropriately;

9 (2) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)
10 (as so redesignated), by striking “The Attorney Gen-
11 eral” and inserting the following:

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General”;
13 and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(2) TRIBAL ACCESS PROGRAM.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General
17 shall establish a program, to be known as the
18 ‘Tribal Access Program’, to enhance the ability
19 of tribal governments to access and enter infor-
20 mation into Federal criminal information data-
21 bases under this section.

22 “(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
23 TIONS.—

24 “(i) IN GENERAL.—There is author-
25 ized to be appropriated to carry out the

1 Tribal Access Program under subpara-
2 graph (A) \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal
3 years 2020 through 2024, to remain avail-
4 able until expended.

5 “(ii) ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—The At-
6 torney General may use to carry out the
7 Tribal Access Program under subpara-
8 graph (A) any balances remaining for the
9 account under the heading ‘VIOLENCE
10 AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROS-
11 ECUTION PROGRAMS’ under the heading
12 ‘STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
13 ACTIVITIES OFFICE ON VIOLENCE
14 AGAINST WOMEN’ of the Department of
15 Justice from appropriations for full fiscal
16 years prior to the date of enactment of the
17 Bridging Agency Data Gaps and Ensuring
18 Safety for Native Communities Act.

19 “(3) INFORMATION SHARING.—To the extent
20 otherwise permitted by law, any report issued as a
21 result of the analysis of information entered into
22 Federal criminal information databases or obtained
23 from Federal criminal databases, including for the
24 purpose of conducting background checks, shall be
25 shared with each Indian tribe of jurisdiction.”.

1 **SEC. 104. REPORT ON INDIAN COUNTRY LAW ENFORCE-**
2 **MENT PERSONNEL RESOURCES AND NEED.**

3 (a) DEFINITION OF DOJ LAW ENFORCEMENT AGEN-
4 CY.—In this section, the term “DOJ law enforcement
5 agency” means each of—

- 6 (1) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- 7 (2) the Drug Enforcement Administration;
- 8 (3) the United States Marshals Service;
- 9 (4) the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms
10 and Explosives; and
- 11 (5) the Offices of the United States Attorneys.

12 (b) REPORT.—Each fiscal year, the Attorney General
13 shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress
14 a report describing for that fiscal year—

- 15 (1) the number of full-time employees of each
16 DOJ law enforcement agency that are assigned to
17 work on criminal investigations and prosecutions in
18 Indian country;
- 19 (2) an estimate of the average caseload of—
 - 20 (A) the full-time employees described in
21 paragraph (1); compared to
 - 22 (B) the other full-time employees at the re-
23 spective DOJ law enforcement agency that are
24 assigned to work on criminal investigations and
25 prosecutions; and

1 (3) an explanation for any differences in the av-
2 erage caseloads identified under subparagraphs (A)
3 and (B) of paragraph (2).

4 **TITLE II—ENSURING SAFETY** 5 **FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES**

6 **SEC. 201. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM ON BUREAU OF IN-** 7 **DIAN AFFAIRS LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOY-** 8 **MENT BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish
11 a demonstration program for the purpose of con-
12 ducting or adjudicating, in coordination with the Di-
13 rector of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, personnel
14 background investigations for applicants for law en-
15 forcement positions in the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

16 (2) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS AND SECUR- 17 ITY CLEARANCE DETERMINATIONS.—

18 (A) BIA INVESTIGATIONS.—As part of the
19 demonstration program established under para-
20 graph (1), the Secretary may carry out a back-
21 ground investigation, security clearance deter-
22 mination, or both a background investigation
23 and a security clearance determination for an
24 applicant for a law enforcement position in the
25 Bureau of Indian Affairs.

1 (B) USE OF PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS
2 AND DETERMINATIONS.—

3 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
4 (ii), as part of the demonstration program
5 established under paragraph (1), the Sec-
6 retary, in adjudicating background inves-
7 tigations for applicants for law enforce-
8 ment positions in the Bureau of Indian Af-
9 fairs, shall consider previous background
10 investigations for an applicant, security
11 clearance determinations for an applicant,
12 or both background investigations and se-
13 curity clearance determinations for an ap-
14 plicant, as the case may be, that have been
15 conducted by a State or local government,
16 Indian tribe, tribal organization, or the
17 Bureau of Indian Affairs, within the 5-year
18 period preceding the application for em-
19 ployment with the Bureau of Indian Af-
20 fairs.

21 (ii) QUALITY.—The Secretary shall
22 only consider previous background inves-
23 tigations and security clearance determina-
24 tions for an applicant that have been con-
25 ducted by a State or local government, In-

1 dian tribe, or tribal organization if the Sec-
2 retary can verify that those previous inves-
3 tigations and determinations, as the case
4 may be, are of a comparable quality and
5 thoroughness to investigations and deter-
6 minations carried out by the Bureau of In-
7 dian Affairs, the Office of Personnel Man-
8 agement, or another Federal agency.

9 (iii) ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION.—If,
10 as described in clause (i), the Secretary
11 considers an existing background investiga-
12 tion, security clearance determination, or
13 both, as the case may be, for an applicant
14 that has been carried out by a State or
15 local government, Indian tribe, tribal orga-
16 nization, or the Bureau of Indian Affairs,
17 the Secretary—

18 (I) may carry out additional in-
19 vestigation and examination of the ap-
20 plicant if the Secretary determines
21 that such additional information is
22 needed in order to make an appro-
23 priate determination as to the char-
24 acter and trustworthiness of the appli-
25 cant before final adjudication can be

1 made and a security clearance can be
2 issued; and

3 (II) shall not initiate a new back-
4 ground investigation process with the
5 National Background Investigations
6 Bureau or other Federal agency un-
7 less that new background investiga-
8 tion process covers a period of time
9 that was not covered by a previous
10 background investigation process.

11 (iv) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary
12 may enter into a Memorandum of Agree-
13 ment with a State or local government, In-
14 dian tribe, or tribal organization to develop
15 steps to expedite the process of receiving
16 and obtaining access to background inves-
17 tigation and security clearance determina-
18 tions for use in the demonstration pro-
19 gram.

20 (3) SUNSET.—The demonstration program es-
21 tablished under this section shall terminate 5 years
22 after the date of the commencement of the program.

23 (b) SUFFICIENCY.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
24 sion of law, a background investigation conducted or adju-
25 dicated by the Secretary pursuant to the demonstration

1 program authorized in subsection (a) that results in the
2 granting of a security clearance to an applicant for a law
3 enforcement position in the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall
4 be sufficient to meet the applicable requirements of the
5 Office of Personnel Management or other Federal agency
6 for such investigations.

7 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit
8 an annual report to the Committee on Indian Affairs of
9 the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of
10 the House of Representatives on the demonstration pro-
11 gram established under subsection (a), which shall include
12 a description of—

13 (1) the demonstration program and any rel-
14 evant annual changes or updates to the program;

15 (2) the number of background investigations
16 carried out under the program;

17 (3) the costs, including any cost savings, associ-
18 ated with the investigation and adjudication process
19 under the program;

20 (4) the processing times for the investigation
21 and adjudication processes under the program;

22 (5) any Memoranda of Agreement entered into
23 with State or local government, Indian tribe, or trib-
24 al organization; and

1 (6) any other information that the Secretary
2 determines to be relevant.

3 (d) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—

4 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 18
5 months after the date on which the demonstration
6 program commences under this section, the Comp-
7 troller General of the United States shall prepare
8 and submit to Congress an initial report on such
9 demonstration program.

10 (2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months
11 after the date on which the demonstration program
12 terminates under subsection (a)(3), the Comptroller
13 General of the United States shall prepare and sub-
14 mit to Congress a final report on such demonstra-
15 tion program.

16 (3) TRIBAL INPUT.—In preparing the reports
17 under this subsection, the Comptroller General of
18 the United States shall obtain input from Indian
19 tribes regarding the demonstration program under
20 this section.

21 **SEC. 202. MISSING AND MURDERED RESPONSE COORDINA-**
22 **TION GRANT PROGRAM.**

23 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Attorney
24 General shall establish within the Office of Justice Pro-
25 grams a grant program under which the Attorney General

1 shall make grants to eligible entities described in sub-
2 section (b) to carry out eligible activities described in sub-
3 section (c).

4 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a
6 grant under the grant program established under
7 subsection (a) an entity shall be—

8 (A) an Indian tribe;

9 (B) a relevant tribal organization;

10 (C) subject to paragraph (2), a State, in
11 consortium with one or more Indian tribes or
12 relevant tribal organizations;

13 (D) a consortium of two or more Indian
14 tribes or relevant tribal organizations; or

15 (E) subject to paragraph (2), a consortium
16 of two or more States and one or more Indian
17 tribes or relevant tribal organizations.

18 (2) STATE ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible under
19 subparagraph (B) or (D) of paragraph (1), a State
20 shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Attorney
21 General that the State—

22 (A) reports missing persons cases in the
23 State to the national crime information data-
24 bases; or

1 (B) if not, has a plan to do so using a
2 grant received under the grant program estab-
3 lished under subsection (a).

4 (c) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible entity receiv-
5 ing a grant under the grant program established under
6 subsection (a) may use the grant—

7 (1) to establish a statewide or regional center to
8 document and track missing persons cases of inter-
9 est to Indian tribes and murder cases of interest to
10 Indian tribes;

11 (2) to establish a State or regional commission
12 to respond to, and to improve coordination between
13 Federal law enforcement agencies, and Tribal, State,
14 and local law enforcement agencies of the investiga-
15 tion of, missing persons cases of interest to Indian
16 tribes and murder cases of interest to Indian tribes;
17 and

18 (3) to document, develop, and disseminate re-
19 sources for use by Federal law enforcement agencies
20 and Tribal, State, and local law enforcement agen-
21 cies for the coordination of the investigation of miss-
22 ing persons cases of interest to Indian tribes and
23 murder cases of interest to Indian tribes.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to carry out the program
3 \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.

4 **SEC. 203. GAO STUDY ON FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**
5 **AGENCY EVIDENCE COLLECTION, HANDLING,**
6 **AND PROCESSING.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the
8 United States shall conduct a study—

9 (1) on the evidence collection, handling, and
10 processing procedures and practices of the Office of
11 Justice Services and the Federal Bureau of Inves-
12 tigation in exercising jurisdiction over crimes involv-
13 ing Indians or committed in Indian country;

14 (2) on any barriers to evidence collection, han-
15 dling, and processing by the agencies referred to in
16 paragraph (1);

17 (3) on the views of law enforcement officials at
18 the agencies referred to in paragraph (1) and their
19 counterparts within the Offices of the United States
20 Attorneys concerning any relationship between—

21 (A) the barriers identified under paragraph
22 (2); and

23 (B) United States Attorneys declination
24 rates due to insufficient evidence; and

1 (4) that includes a survey of barriers to evi-
2 dence collection, handling, and processing faced by
3 State and local law enforcement agencies that exer-
4 cise jurisdiction over Indian country under the Act
5 of August 15, 1953 (67 Stat. 588, chapter 505),
6 and the amendments made by that Act.

7 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General
9 of the United States shall submit to Congress a report
10 describing the results of the study conducted under sub-
11 section (a).

12 **SEC. 204. BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND TRIBAL LAW**
13 **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER COUNSELING RE-**
14 **SOURCES INTERDEPARTMENTAL COORDINA-**
15 **TION.**

16 The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting
17 through the Director of the Indian Health Service and the
18 Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health
19 Services Administration, and the Attorney General shall
20 coordinate with the Director to ensure that Federal train-
21 ing materials and resources for establishing and maintain-
22 ing mental health wellness programs are available to Trib-
23 al and Bureau of Indian Affairs law enforcement officers
24 experiencing occupational stress.

○