

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3167

To provide competitive grants for the operation, security, and maintenance of certain memorials to victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 28, 2018

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. MENENDEZ) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To provide competitive grants for the operation, security, and maintenance of certain memorials to victims of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

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 “9/11 Memorial Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

6 In this Act:

7 (1) COVERED MEMORIAL.—The term “covered
8 memorial” means a memorial located in the United
9 States established to commemorate the events of,

and honor the victims of, the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and United Airlines Flight 93 on September 11, 2001, at the site of the attacks.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible entity” means the official organization, as in existence on the date of enactment of this Act—

(A) the focus of which is the operations and preservation of a covered memorial; and

(B) which is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under 501(a) of that Code.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. COMPETITIVE GRANTS FOR COVERED MEMORIALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary shall award to eligible entities competitive grants of varying amounts, as determined by the Secretary, to be used by the eligible entity solely for the purposes described in subsection (b).

(b) PURPOSES.—A grant awarded under subsection (a) shall be used by an eligible entity for the operation, security, and maintenance of a covered memorial.

1 (c) DEADLINE FOR AWARD.—If the Secretary, after
2 review of an application from an eligible entity, determines
3 to award a grant to the eligible entity, the Secretary shall
4 award the grant not later than 60 days after the date of
5 receipt of the completed application.

6 (d) AVAILABILITY.—Grant funds made available
7 under this section shall remain available until expended.

8 (e) CRITERIA.—In awarding grants under this sec-
9 tion, the Secretary shall give greatest weight in the selec-
10 tion of eligible entities using the following criteria:

11 (1) The needs of the eligible entity, and ability
12 and commitment of the eligible entity to use grant
13 funds, with respect to ensuring the security and
14 safety of visitors of the covered memorial.

15 (2) The ability of the eligible entity to match
16 the amount of the grant, on at least a 1-to-1 basis,
17 with non-Federal assets from non-Federal sources,
18 including cash or durable goods and materials fairly
19 valued, as determined by the Secretary.

20 (3) The greatest number of visitors that would
21 benefit.

22 (4) The ability and commitment of an eligible
23 entity to use grant funds—

24 (A) to preserve the grounds at the covered
25 memorial; and

1 (B) to educate future generations.

2 (5) The ability and commitment of an eligible
3 entity to use grant funds to increase the numbers of
4 economically disadvantaged visitors to the covered
5 memorial.

6 (f) LIMITATION.—No grant shall be awarded under
7 this section—

8 (1) for use at a covered memorial that does not
9 provide for—

10 (A) free admission to all facilities and mu-
11 seums associated with the covered memorial for
12 active and retired members of the military, reg-
13 istered first responders to the attacks of Sep-
14 tember 11, 2001, and family members of vic-
15 tims of the attacks of September 11, 2001; and

16 (B) dedicated free admission hours for the
17 general public at least once a week; or

18 (2) to an eligible entity that does not allow for
19 annual Federal audits of the financial statements of
20 the eligible entity, including revenues associated with
21 ticket sales, charitable donations, grants, and all ex-
22 penditures on salaries and operations, which shall be
23 subject to review by the Secretary and made avail-
24 able to the public.

1 (g) REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the end
2 of each calendar year for which an eligible entity obligates
3 or expends any amounts made available under a grant
4 under this section, the eligible entity shall submit to the
5 Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress a
6 report that—

7 (1) specifies the amount of grant funds obli-
8 gated or expended for the preceding fiscal year;

9 (2) specifies any purposes for which the funds
10 were obligated or expended; and

11 (3) includes any other information that the Sec-
12 retary may require to more effectively administer the
13 grant program under this section.

14 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
15 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
16 out this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
17 through 2023.

○