

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 169

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a grant program for States that establish specific standards for education and training programs concerning civilian and law enforcement encounters during traffic stops and other in-person encounters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Mr. GREEN of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a grant program for States that establish specific standards for education and training programs concerning civilian and law enforcement encounters during traffic stops and other in-person encounters, 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 “Driver and Officer
5 Safety Education Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATES MEETING MINIMUM**
2 **STANDARDS FOR EDUCATIONAL AND TRAIN-**
3 **ING PROGRAMS CONCERNING LAW ENFORCE-**
4 **MENT PRACTICES DURING TRAFFIC STOPS**
5 **AND OTHER IN-PERSON ENCOUNTERS.**

6 (a) INCREASE IN AUTHORIZATION LEVELS.—Section
7 4001(a)(3) of the FAST Act is amended by—

- 8 (1) striking paragraphs (D) and (E); and
9 (2) inserting after paragraph (C) the following:
10 “(D) \$288,660,000 for fiscal year 2019; and
11 “(E) \$291,618,000 for fiscal year 2020.”.

12 (b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 405 of title 23,
13 United States Code is amended—

- 14 (1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “13” and
15 inserting “12.74”;
16 (2) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “14.5” and
17 inserting “14.21”;
18 (3) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “52.5” and
19 inserting “51.45”;
20 (4) in subsection (a)(4), by striking “8.5” and
21 inserting “8.33”;
22 (5) in subsection (a)(5), by striking “1.5” and
23 inserting “1.47”;
24 (6) in subsection (a)(6), by striking “5” and in-
25 serting “4.9”;

1 (7) in subsection (a)(7), by striking “5” and in-
 2 serting “4.9”;

3 (8) by redesignating paragraphs (8) through
 4 (10) of subsection (a) as paragraphs (9) through
 5 (11);

6 (9) by inserting after subsection (a)(7) the fol-
 7 lowing:

8 “(8) COMMUTER SAFETY EDUCATION.—In each
 9 fiscal year, 2 percent of the funds provided under
 10 this section shall be allocated among States that im-
 11 plement commuter safety education programs (as
 12 described in subsection (i)).”;

13 (10) in subsection (a)(9), as so redesignated,
 14 by—

15 (A) striking “through (7)” and inserting
 16 “through (8)”; and

17 (B) striking “through (h)” and inserting
 18 “through (i)”; and

19 (11) by inserting at the end the following:

20 “(i) COMMUTER SAFETY EDUCATION.—

21 “(1) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Subject to the re-
 22 quirements under this subsection, the Secretary of
 23 Transportation shall award grants to States that
 24 enact a commuter safety education program.

1 “(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
2 the costs of activities funded using amounts from
3 grants awarded under this subsection may not ex-
4 ceed 80 percent for each fiscal year for which a
5 State receives a grant.

6 “(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant
7 under this subsection, a State shall enact a law or
8 adopt a program that requires the following:

9 “(A) DRIVER EDUCATION AND DRIVING
10 SAFETY COURSES.—Inclusion, in driver edu-
11 cation and driving safety courses provided to in-
12 dividuals by educational and motor vehicle
13 agencies of the State, of instruction and testing
14 concerning law enforcement practices during
15 traffic stops and other in-person encounters, in-
16 cluding information on—

17 “(i) the role of law enforcement and
18 the duties and responsibilities of peace offi-
19 cers;

20 “(ii) an individual’s legal rights con-
21 cerning interactions with peace officers;

22 “(iii) best practices for civilians and
23 peace officers during such interactions;

24 “(iv) laws regarding questioning and
25 detention by peace officers, including any

1 law requiring an individual to present
2 proof of identity to a peace officer;

3 “(v) the consequences for an individ-
4 ual’s or officer’s failure to comply with
5 those laws; and

6 “(vi) how and where to file a com-
7 plaint against or a compliment on behalf of
8 a peace officer.

9 “(B) PEACE OFFICER TRAINING PRO-
10 GRAMS.—Development and implementation of a
11 training program, including instruction and
12 testing materials, for peace officers and reserve
13 law enforcement officers (other than officers
14 who have received training in a civilian course
15 described in subparagraph (A)) pertaining to
16 proper interaction with civilians during traffic
17 stops and other in-person encounters.

18 “(4) ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS.—For each
19 fiscal year, funds made available to carry out this
20 subsection for such fiscal year shall be apportioned
21 to a covered State in an amount determined by mul-
22 tiplying—

23 “(A) the amount made available to carry
24 out this subsection for the fiscal year; by

1 “(B) the ratio that the amount of funds
2 apportioned to each such State under section
3 402 for such fiscal year bears to the total
4 amount of funds apportioned to all such States
5 under section 402 for such fiscal year.

6 “(5) COVERED STATE.—In this subsection, a
7 ‘covered State’ means—

8 “(A) a State that the Secretary determines
9 is enforcing and carrying out the law or pro-
10 gram described in paragraph (3); and

11 “(B) a State that qualifies pursuant to
12 paragraph (6)(A).

13 “(6) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN STATES.—

14 “(A) QUALIFYING STATE.—A State quali-
15 fies pursuant to this subparagraph if—

16 “(i) the Secretary determines such
17 State has taken meaningful steps toward
18 the full implementation of a law or pro-
19 gram described in paragraph (3);

20 “(ii) the Secretary determines such
21 State has established a timetable for the
22 implementation of such law or program;
23 and

24 “(iii) subject to subparagraph (C),
25 such State has received a grant pursuant

1 to this subsection for a period of no more
2 than 2 years.

3 “(B) WITHHOLDING.—With respect to a
4 State that qualifies pursuant to subparagraph
5 (A), the Secretary shall—

6 “(i) withhold 50 percent of the
7 amount that such State would otherwise
8 receive if such State were a State described
9 in paragraph (5)(A); and

10 “(ii) direct any such amounts for dis-
11 tribution among the States described in
12 paragraph (5)(A).

13 “(C) WAIVER.—Upon the request of a
14 State, the Secretary may waive or modify the 2-
15 year period described in subparagraph (A)(iii) if
16 the Secretary determines that such a waiver
17 would be equitable due to exceptional or uncon-
18 trollable circumstances.

19 “(7) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Grant funds
20 received pursuant to this subsection may be used—

21 “(A) for the production of educational ma-
22 terials and training of staff for driver education
23 and driving safety courses and peace officer
24 training described in paragraph (3); and

1 “(B) for the implementation of the law de-
2 scribed in paragraph (3).”.

3 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 The amendments made by section 2(b) shall take ef-
5 fect on the first day of the fiscal year that begins after
6 the date of enactment of this Act.

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