

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4194

To establish within the Department of Health and Human Services a Division on Community Safety, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2021

Ms. BUSH (for herself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JONES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. OMAR, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. DESAULNIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Financial Services, 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 establish within the Department of Health and Human Services a Division on Community Safety, 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; PURPOSES.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “The People’s Response Act”.

1 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to—

2 (1) catalyze, coordinate, and disseminate re-
3 search on approaches to community safety that re-
4 duce criminal justice contact while expanding oppor-
5 tunity, including a particular focus on groups that
6 have been disproportionately harmed by the criminal
7 justice system;

8 (2) support State governments, local govern-
9 ments, and community-based organizations in imple-
10 menting qualified approaches to community safety;

11 (3) mobilize and coordinate Federal resources
12 to advance qualified approaches to community safe-
13 ty;

14 (4) expand resources to holistically support sur-
15 vivors of mass incarceration, police violence, rape
16 and other forms of sexual assault, harm resulting
17 from detention or deportation, and other forms of vi-
18 olence and abuse; and

19 (5) expand resources to holistically support
20 communities of color, particularly Black commu-
21 nities, to implement qualified approaches to commu-
22 nity safety.

23 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

24 In this Act:

1 (1) COMMUNITY LAND TRUST.—The term
2 “community land trust” means a community-based
3 organization that is designed to ensure community
4 stewardship of land and—

5 (A) is not sponsored by a for-profit organi-
6 zation;

7 (B) has a membership open to any adult
8 who resides in the particular geographic area in
9 which the organization operates; and

10 (C) provides low-cost land and housing
11 while maintaining community control over
12 neighborhood resources, including by acquiring
13 land that will be held in perpetuity so as to pro-
14 vide permanently affordable homeownership to
15 those who might not otherwise be able to afford
16 a home.

17 (2) FIRST RESPONDER.—The term “first re-
18 sponder” includes a licensed therapist, psychiatrist,
19 doctor, nurse, psychologist, peer support worker,
20 peer, teacher, mentor, counselor, peer support spe-
21 cialist, violence intervention worker, and other com-
22 munity-members with relevant experience who re-
23 spond to crises in a way that meets the definition of
24 qualified approaches to public safety.

1 (3) QUALIFIED APPROACH TO COMMUNITY
2 SAFETY.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “qualified ap-
4 proach to community safety” means, with re-
5 spect to a program or service, that the program
6 or service is established or provided in a man-
7 ner that is disconnected from carceral institu-
8 tions, including law enforcement, criminal
9 courts, prosecution, probation, child welfare
10 services, or immigration enforcement.

11 (B) DISCONNECTED.— For purposes of
12 subparagraph (A), the term “disconnected from
13 carceral institutions” means having no relation-
14 ship with respect to administration, staffing, or
15 funding, or otherwise cooperating with, collabo-
16 rating with, or reporting to, any carceral insti-
17 tution in any situation, except where the pro-
18 gram or service involved is bound to engage in
19 such cooperation or reporting by existing Fed-
20 eral, State, or local law.”

21 (4) PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING.—The term
22 “participatory budgeting” means a democratic en-
23 gagement process in which community members de-
24 liberate and decide directly how to allocate a portion
25 of a public budget.

1 (5) SAFETY NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—The term
2 “safety needs assessment” means a systematic,
3 participatory process for identifying the safety needs
4 in the local community. Such process shall include—

5 (A) soliciting input from persons who rep-
6 resent the broad interests of the local commu-
7 nity, including those who have been directly im-
8 pacted by arrest, incarceration, criminal super-
9 vision, immigration detention, or other criminal
10 justice system involvement;

11 (B) identifying the structural, systemic
12 factors that may lead community members to
13 feel unsafe or may increase the risk that com-
14 munity members may become involved with the
15 criminal justice system;

16 (C) identifying existing resources that are
17 potentially available to address those safety
18 needs as well as any other gaps in necessary re-
19 sources; and

20 (D) providing opportunities that allow peo-
21 ple meaningful opportunities to review, com-
22 ment on, and provide suggested modifications
23 to the draft assessment, such as through public
24 hearings, online publication, and a comment pe-

1 riod that allows sufficient time for community
2 feedback.

3 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means any
4 State of the United States, the District of Columbia,
5 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Is-
6 lands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern
7 Mariana Islands.

8 (7) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term
9 “unit of local government” means a any city, county,
10 township, town, borough, parish, village, or other
11 general purpose political subdivision of a State.

12 **TITLE I—DIVISION ON** 13 **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

14 **SEC. 101. DIVISION ON COMMUNITY SAFETY.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the
16 Department of Health and Human Services a Division of
17 Community Safety (referred to in this Act as the “Divi-
18 sion”). The Division shall be headed by an Assistant Sec-
19 retary for Community Safety (referred to in this Act as
20 the “Assistant Secretary”) who shall be designated by and
21 report directly to the Secretary of Health and Human
22 Services.

23 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Division shall have re-
24 sponsibility for overseeing activities that promote qualified
25 approaches to community safety, including—

1 (1) coordinating and carrying out other over-
2 sight activities with respect to the grant programs
3 established under title II;

4 (2) funding, conducting, and publicly dissemi-
5 nating the findings of, research into policies, pro-
6 grams, infrastructure, and other investments that
7 serve to increase qualified approaches to community
8 safety, including through interdisciplinary collabora-
9 tions involving scholars, nonprofits, and other non-
10 governmental actors;

11 (3) providing and funding technical assistance
12 to State and local governments to implement quali-
13 fied approaches to community safety;

14 (4) establishing—

15 (A) the Community Advisory Board under
16 section 102;

17 (B) the Federal Health Response Unit
18 under section 103;

19 (C) the Interagency Task force under sec-
20 tion 104;

21 (D) the Community Safety and Crisis Re-
22 sponse Grant for community-led organizations
23 under section 201;

1 (E) the Community Safety and Crisis Re-
2 sponse Grant for Local Governments under sec-
3 tion 202;

4 (F) the Community Safety and Crisis Re-
5 sponse Grant for States under section 203; and

6 (G) the First Responders Hiring Grants
7 under section 204;

8 (5) coordinating, streamlining, and imple-
9 menting qualified approaches to community safety in
10 collaboration with the Assistant Secretary for the
11 Administration for Children and Families, Director
12 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
13 Administrator of the Health Resources and Services
14 Administration, Director of the Indian Health Serv-
15 ice, and the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health
16 and Substances Use, and other relevant agencies
17 within the Department of Health and Human Serv-
18 ices;

19 (6) supporting and helping to coordinate inter-
20 agency initiatives that advance, streamline, and oth-
21 erwise implement qualified approaches to community
22 safety;

23 (7) administering grant programs that support
24 State governments, local governments, and commu-

1 nity-based organizations in implementing qualified
2 approaches to increasing community safety;

3 (8) providing to the public updates, findings,
4 and recommendations on qualified approaches to
5 community safety collected from the reports made by
6 recipients of grants under title II; and

7 (9) establishing and maintaining a complaint
8 system responsible for the resolution of complaints
9 from members of the general public regarding grant
10 funding for programs not compliant with the quali-
11 fied approaches to community safety standard.

12 **SEC. 102. COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Division shall establish an
14 advisory board to oversee the activities of the Division es-
15 tablished under section 101 and grant programs under
16 title II, to be known as the Community Advisory Board
17 (referred to in this Act as the “Advisory Board”).

18 (b) COMPOSITION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall be
20 composed of individuals, to be selected by the Sec-
21 retary. Such members shall reflect the racial, reli-
22 gious, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, disability
23 status, immigration status, and other diversities of
24 the United States, including representation for
25 Black people, Asian-American people, Latinx people,

1 indigenous people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgen-
2 der, and queer people, women, youth, disabled peo-
3 ple, undocumented and formerly undocumented im-
4 migrants, and other groups that have been dis-
5 proportionately disadvantaged by the criminal justice
6 system.

7 (2) REPRESENTATION.—The Assistant Sec-
8 retary shall ensure that a certain number of individ-
9 uals selected to serve as members of the Advisory
10 Board—

11 (A) have personal experience with the
12 criminal justice system, including —

13 (i) individuals who have been detained
14 or incarcerated;

15 (ii) individuals who are currently on
16 community supervision (such as probation
17 or parole) or who have been on community
18 supervision;

19 (iii) individuals who have been ar-
20 rested or cited by law enforcement;

21 (iv) individuals who have been directly
22 impacted by police violence or other forms
23 of violence, including domestic violence,
24 sexual assault, rape, and other forms of
25 sexual or intimate partner violence; and

1 (v) immediate family members of indi-
2 viduals who have been directly impacted by
3 police violence; and

4 (B) are advocates or grassroots practi-
5 tioners working to advance educational equity,
6 health equity, housing equity, environmental
7 justice, racial justice, gender justice, disability
8 justice, or indigenous justice.

9 (3) PAY.—Members of the Advisory Board shall
10 serve at a rate of pay to be determined by the Sec-
11 retary.

12 (4) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The duties of the Ad-
13 visory Board are as follows:

14 (A) Approving annual priorities and fund-
15 ing for research and technical assistance and
16 evaluating, on an annual basis research con-
17 ducted or supported by the Division and tech-
18 nical assistance provided by the Division.

19 (B) Based on the evaluations conducted
20 under paragraph (5), producing, and submitting
21 to the Administrator, annual recommendations
22 on the following:

23 (i) Whether activities conducted by
24 the Division adequately reflect the specific
25 needs and interests of all individuals, in-

cluding Black individuals, Asian-American individuals, Latinx individuals, indigenous individuals, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals, disabled individuals, and other individuals who are members of communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the immigration and criminal justice system.

(ii) Whether funding made available to the Division is sufficiently flowing to organizations that are led by individuals referred to in clause (i).

(iii) Changes that the Division could make to address any issues uncovered during such evaluations, including ways to ensure that grants awarded under this title are serving to enhance racial equity and benefit community-based organizations that have diverse leadership and composition.

(5) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Division receives the recommendations under paragraph (4)(E), the Division shall submit a report to Congress, which details—

1 (A) steps the Division has taken or will
2 take to implement the Advisory Board's rec-
3 ommendations; or

4 (B) for any recommendations not imple-
5 mented or planned to be implemented, an expla-
6 nation as to why such recommendation was in-
7 feasible or conflicted with the Division's statu-
8 tory obligations.

9 **SEC. 103. FEDERAL HEALTH RESPONSE UNIT.**

10 The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall
11 establish a Federal health response unit, to be known as
12 the "Federal Health Response Unit", which shall—

13 (1) respond, through a response unit trained in
14 accordance with training developed under paragraph
15 (2), to any public health emergency—

16 (A) declared by the Secretary of Health
17 and Human Services under section 319 of the
18 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d); or

19 (B) with respect to which the head of a
20 State public health agency makes a request to
21 the Secretary for assistance;

22 (2) develop, provide for the training of, and
23 hire, not fewer than 5,000 personnel to respond to
24 such an emergency;

1 (3) develop, and provide to States and units of
2 local government, guidelines for qualified approaches
3 to community safety;

4 (4) support local educational agencies as de-
5 fined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-
6 ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)
7 with resources, personnel and services that create
8 truly safe and inclusive schools;

9 (5) provide States and units of local govern-
10 ment with personnel to improve access to health
11 services and address the public health emergency de-
12 scribed in paragraph (1) within their respective ju-
13 risdiction; and

14 (6) coordinate with the commissioned Regular
15 corps and Ready Reserve Corps under section 203 of
16 the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 204), the
17 Medical Reserve Corps under section 2813 of the
18 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–15),
19 and State-level agencies and crisis response teams.

20 **SEC. 104. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.**

21 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Health and
22 Human Services shall establish an interagency task force
23 (referred to in this Act as the “Task Force”) to coordinate
24 and promote holistic, qualified approaches to community
25 safety.

1 (b) MEMBERS.—The Task Force shall be composed
2 of the following members:

3 (1) The Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
4 ices, or the designee of the Secretary.

5 (2) The Attorney General, or the designee of
6 the Attorney General.

7 (3) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-
8 opment, or the designee of the Secretary.

9 (4) The Secretary of Education, or the designee
10 of the Secretary.

11 (5) The Secretary of Labor, or the designee of
12 the Secretary.

13 (6) The Administrator of the Environmental
14 Protection Agency, or the designee of the Adminis-
15 trator.

16 (7) Other agencies, as determined necessary by
17 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

18 (c) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall:

19 (1) Conduct a comprehensive audit of all funds
20 allocated and programs supported by the Depart-
21 ment of Justice and other Federal agencies that
22 fund law enforcement, jails, prisons, and other de-
23 tention facilities, and other coercive or carceral ap-
24 proaches to community safety.

1 (2) Conduct a comprehensive audit that as-
2 sesses all Federal funds allocated to, as well as Fed-
3 eral programs supporting, initiatives that are in-
4 tended to enhance qualified approaches to commu-
5 nity safety, disaggregated by jurisdiction.

6 (3) Facilitate ongoing efforts to streamline the
7 application, monitoring, and reporting processes to
8 make Federal funds provided pursuant to any grant
9 made under this Act maximally accessible to small,
10 grassroots organizations that work to develop, imple-
11 ment, or evaluate qualified approaches to community
12 safety.

13 (d) MEETINGS.—For the purpose of carrying out this
14 section, the Task Force may hold such meetings, and sit
15 and act at such times and places, as the Task Force con-
16 siders appropriate.

17 (e) INFORMATION.—The Task Force may secure di-
18 rectly from any Federal agency such information as may
19 be necessary to enable the Task Force to carry out this
20 section. Upon request of the Chairperson of the Task
21 Force, the head of such agency shall furnish such informa-
22 tion to the Task Force.

23 (f) REPORTS.—For the purposes of enabling the
24 Task Force to carry out the audits required under sub-
25 section (c), not less than once every six months—

1 (1) the Secretary of Education shall submit to
2 the Assistant Secretary a report that contains with
3 respect to each recipient of a grant awarded by the
4 Secretary a profile of such recipient and in the case
5 of any such recipient that is a State or unit of local
6 government—

7 (A) the needs of school health providers in
8 the relevant jurisdiction; and

9 (B) information on the applicable local
10 school population, including the largest barriers
11 to the safety of the school population (including
12 when school is not in session);

13 (2) the Attorney General shall submit to the
14 Assistant Secretary a report that contains with re-
15 spect to each recipient of a grant awarded by the
16 Secretary a profile of such recipient and in the case
17 of any such recipient that is a State or unit of local
18 government—

19 (A) the amount of grant funds awarded to
20 the jurisdiction under a grant administered by
21 the Attorney General;

22 (B) the recipients progress in meeting the
23 purposes specified in section 1, including—

24 (i) the number of residents who are
25 being incarcerated, criminally supervised,

1 or otherwise confined in any coercive insti-
2 tutional structure and how these numbers
3 have changed over time;

4 (ii) the amount and type of any fines,
5 fees, or other financial obligations owed by
6 residents to any component of the criminal
7 justice system;

8 (iii) the amount and type of contact
9 that residents have with the criminal jus-
10 tice system; and

11 (iv) racial disparities in arrest, incar-
12 ceration, criminal supervision, school dis-
13 cipline, and other areas that people may
14 contact the criminal justice system.

15 **SEC. 105. NON-DISCRIMINATION.**

16 No person in the United States shall, on the basis
17 of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin,
18 sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), or
19 disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the
20 benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under—

21 (1) any program or activity funded, in whole or
22 in part, with funds made available under this title;

23 or

24 (2) any other program or activity funded, in
25 whole or in part, with funds appropriated for grants,

1 cooperative agreements, and other assistance admin-
2 istered by the Assistant Secretary.

3 **TITLE II—GRANTS IN SUPPORT**
4 **OF COMMUNITY SAFETY**

5 **SEC. 201. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND**
6 **CRISIS RESPONSE GRANT FOR COMMUNITY-**
7 **LED ORGANIZATIONS.**

8 (a) GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary
9 of Health and Human Services (in this Act referred to
10 as the “Secretary”), shall award grants, on a rolling basis,
11 to community-based organizations that are designing, im-
12 plementing, monitoring, or otherwise supporting qualified
13 approaches to community safety.

14 (b) APPLICATION.—A community-based organization
15 seeking a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
16 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
17 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

18 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
19 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to community-based
20 organizations that—

21 (1) serve, are located in, and directly employ
22 people who live in, communities that have been dis-
23 proportionately impacted by the immigration or
24 criminal justice system, as evidenced by high rates
25 of individuals who have been cited, arrested, or in-

1 carcerated in the year preceding the year for which
2 the application for such grant is submitted;

3 (2) are led by, or employ, individuals who have
4 been directly impacted by the criminal justice sys-
5 tem, including via arrests, incarceration, witnessing
6 or being victims of police violence, or having a family
7 member who was arrested, incarcerated, or a victim
8 of police violence;

9 (3) are led by individuals who have proven ties
10 to the community in which the organization oper-
11 ates;

12 (4) are located in, or primarily serve, Native
13 American communities on and off of reservations,
14 including Urban Indian (as defined in section 4 of
15 the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C.
16 1603)) communities; or

17 (5) have a leadership that reflects the racial di-
18 versity of the community in which the organization
19 operates.

20 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A community-based organiza-
21 tion receiving funds under this section shall use such grant
22 funds for any purpose that has demonstrable connection
23 to improving community safety through the use of quali-
24 fied approaches to community safety, including grant writ-

1 ing or funding that furthers one or more of the following
2 purposes:

3 (1) Crisis intervention, including unarmed first
4 responder agencies and 9–1–1 dispatchers for divert-
5 ing calls to first responders.

6 (2) To implement qualified approaches to com-
7 munity safety, including violence and abuse interrup-
8 tion and prevention programs, neighborhood medi-
9 ation programs, safe passage to school programs,
10 youth and mentorship programs, after school and
11 enrichment programs, and infrastructure invest-
12 ments including park redevelopment, streetlights,
13 and public transportation.

14 (3) To implement public health activities and
15 expand access to voluntary health services, including
16 harm reduction-based treatment for mental health
17 and substance use, long-term supportive housing,
18 lead abatement, pollution reduction, and nutrition
19 access, such as through establishing farmers mar-
20 kets, nonprofit and employee-owned grocery stores,
21 and school-based nutrition programs.

22 (4) To implement housing security programs
23 and initiatives, including community land trusts and
24 housing for individuals experiencing temporary or
25 chronic homelessness.

1 (5) To provide support for youth and families,
2 including school-based counselors, trauma-informed
3 practices, social-emotional learning programs, wrap-
4 around services, and two-generational programming.

5 (6) To provide support for victims, including
6 survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, and
7 rape, and targeted services to help victims, wit-
8 nesses, and survivors process trauma, achieve finan-
9 cial and housing independence, make individualized,
10 needs-based safety plans, and otherwise access the
11 help that they need.

12 (7) To provide reentry support for people who
13 are exiting incarceration or criminal supervision, in-
14 cluding educational and workforce programs, sti-
15 pends, housing programs, and support for worker
16 coops.

17 (8) To provide capacity building support to
18 local advocates and community-based organizations,
19 including legal assistance, and startup assistance for
20 coops, community land trusts, and nonprofit organi-
21 zations.

22 (e) GRANT AMOUNTS.—In determining the amount
23 of a grant awarded to a single community-based organiza-
24 tion under this section, the Secretary shall base such de-
25 termination on—

1 (1) the number of people who will be served by
2 the program or intervention;

3 (2) the depth of need demonstrated, including
4 attention to specific activities planned, the socio-
5 economic characteristics of the community served by
6 the organization, and current patterns of criminal
7 justice involvement; and

8 (3) such other factors as the Secretary deter-
9 mines are relevant.

10 (f) LIMITATION.—Funds made available under this
11 section may be used only to carry out programs, services,
12 or activities that use qualified approaches to community
13 safety.

14 (g) REPORTING.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than
16 one year after the date on which a community-based
17 organization receives a grant under this section, and
18 annually thereafter, the organization shall prepare
19 and submit a report to the Secretary and Assistant
20 Secretary containing such information as the Sec-
21 retary may require, including—

22 (A) the use of grant funds;

23 (B) an estimation of the number of people
24 served through activities carried out using
25 grant funds, including demographic information

1 disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age, gender,
2 disability status sexuality, immigration status,
3 zip code, and socioeconomic status (where such
4 information is reasonably available and volun-
5 tarily provided); and

6 (C) any relevant feedback received by such
7 organization from the populations served by
8 such organization regarding—

9 (i) the efficacy of support from
10 sources other than programs and services
11 provided by such organization using grant
12 funds; and

13 (ii) additional resources and services
14 needed by such populations with respect to
15 improving community safety.

16 (2) PRIVACY.—The report submitted to the
17 Secretary and Division of Community Safety pursu-
18 ant to this section must protect the privacy of the
19 individuals served. All of the information gathered
20 as part of the reporting process shall be aggregated,
21 anonymized, and used only for the purposes listed in
22 this section and shall not be used to initiate or con-
23 tribute to any criminal, legal, immigration, or Child
24 Protective Services actions of proceedings, except
25 where such reporting is required by law.

1 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$2,500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022
4 through 2026.

5 **SEC. 202. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND**
6 **CRISIS RESPONSE GRANT FOR LOCAL GOV-**
7 **ERNMENTS.**

8 (a) GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary
9 shall award grants, on a rolling basis, to units of local
10 government to conduct research on, fund, and otherwise
11 support the development of qualified approaches to com-
12 munity safety.

13 (b) APPLICATION.—A unit of local government seek-
14 ing a grant under this section shall submit an application
15 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-
16 taining such information as the Secretary may require, in-
17 cluding an assurance that the unit of local government
18 shall develop, and submit to the Secretary, during the
19 grant period, a safety needs assessment to guide local in-
20 vestments in qualified approaches to community safety.

21 (c) PREFERENCE.—In awarding grants under this
22 section, the Secretary shall give a preference to a unit of
23 local government that—

1 (1) has taken steps toward, or is submitting
2 proposals within the application for such a grant for
3 purposes of—

4 (A) increasing human liberty, including
5 through measures that reduce incarceration,
6 pretrial detention, arrests, criminal supervision,
7 immigration detention, and other forms of
8 criminal justice involvement;

9 (B) ending the criminalization of poverty,
10 mental illness, homelessness, substance use, and
11 related issues by addressing root causes of
12 those issues rather than imposing criminal pun-
13 ishment and other punitive responses; or

14 (C) ending racial, economic, gender, and
15 other disparities in criminal punishment, includ-
16 ing discipline in schools;

17 (2) has a high rate of poverty, as well as dis-
18 proportionately high shares of residents who have
19 been impacted by violence and criminal justice sys-
20 tem (as determined by the Secretary); or

21 (3) has prepared and developed the application
22 submitted under this section in consultation with the
23 community the unit of local government serves, espe-
24 cially individuals in such community who have been
25 directly impacted by the criminal justice system.

1 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A unit of local government re-
2 ceiving funds under this section shall use such grant funds
3 to implement one or more of the following:

4 (1) Establish or designating a community-led
5 entity that—

6 (A) employs qualified approaches to com-
7 munity safety; and

8 (B) can coordinate and make investments
9 in community safety, including by using
10 participatory budgeting or other community-led
11 processes.

12 (2) Develop a safety needs assessment.

13 (3) Invest in programs, interventions, or policy
14 initiatives that have a demonstrable connection to
15 improving community safety, including programs
16 interventions, or policy initiatives that are designed
17 to address needs related to economic stability, sur-
18 vivor safety, physical and behavioral health, environ-
19 mental safety, housing stability, and educational eq-
20 uity and opportunity such as those listed in section
21 201(d).

22 (e) GRANT AMOUNTS.—In determining the amount
23 of a grant awarded to a State or unit of local government
24 under this section, the Secretary shall base such deter-
25 mination on—

1 (1) the number of people who live in the juris-
2 diction of the local government;

3 (2) the depth of need demonstrated, including
4 attention to activities planned, the socioeconomic
5 characteristics of the community and residents with-
6 in that jurisdiction, and current patterns of spend-
7 ing in systems of incarceration; and

8 (3) such other factors as the Secretary deter-
9 mines are relevant.

10 (f) LIMITATION.—Funds made available under this
11 section may be used only to carry out programs, services,
12 or activities that use qualified approaches to community
13 safety.

14 (g) REPORTING.—Beginning not later than one year
15 after the date on which a local government receives a
16 grant under this section, and annually thereafter, the unit
17 of local government shall prepare and submit to the Sec-
18 retary, and make publicly available, a report containing
19 information about—

20 (1) how the grant funds were used;

21 (2) the number of people who were cited, ar-
22 rested, or jailed by any State or local law enforce-
23 ment officers in the previous year in the jurisdiction
24 of the local government, as compared to the number
25 cited, arrest, or jailed during the term of the grant;

1 (3) the reasons for such citing, arresting, or de-
2 tained or imprisoned;

3 (4) demographic data of individuals cited, ar-
4 rested, or jailed or referred by local law enforcement
5 officers, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age, gen-
6 der, disability status, and socioeconomic status; and

7 (5) the percentage of grant funds that ulti-
8 mately benefitted community-based organizations.

9 (h) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—An unit of local
10 government receiving a grant under this section may use
11 Federal funds received through the grant only to supple-
12 ment the funds that would, without such Federal funds,
13 be made available from State and local sources, and not
14 to supplant such funds.

15 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 are authorized to be appropriated to implement this sec-
17 tion \$2,500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022
18 through 2026.

19 **SEC. 203. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND**
20 **CRISIS RESPONSE GRANT PROGRAM FOR**
21 **STATES.**

22 (a) GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary
23 shall award grants, on a rolling basis, to States to conduct
24 research on, fund, and otherwise support the development
25 of qualified approaches to community safety.

1 (b) APPLICATION.—A State seeking a grant under
2 this section shall submit an application to the Secretary
3 at such time, in such manner, and containing such infor-
4 mation as the Secretary may require, including an assur-
5 ance that the State shall—

6 (1) establish or designate a State agency, de-
7 partment, or office to oversee and support the use
8 of health-centered and preventative approaches to
9 public safety statewide; and

10 (2) demonstrate ongoing financial support for
11 qualified approaches to community safety, either
12 through committing in the State budget for the year
13 before the grant is awarded for such purpose—

14 (A) a fixed sum;

15 (B) a percentage of a specified State rev-
16 enue stream; or

17 (C) an amount that is equivalent to the
18 amount of funds the State is saving from a re-
19 duction in criminal justice spending.

20 (c) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-
21 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to a State that meets
22 one or more of the same criteria specified in paragraphs
23 (1), (2), and (3) of section 202(c).

1 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A State receiving funds under
2 this section shall use such grant funds to implement one
3 or more of the policies specified in section 202(d).

4 (e) GRANT AMOUNTS.—In determining the amount
5 of a grant awarded to a single recipient under this section,
6 the Secretary shall base such determination on—

7 (1) the number of people who live in the State;

8 (2) the depth of need demonstrated, including
9 attention to activities planned, the socioeconomic
10 characteristics of the community, and current pat-
11 terns of involvement in the criminal justice system;
12 and

13 (3) such other factors as the Secretary deter-
14 mines are relevant; and

15 (f) LIMITATION.—Funds made available under this
16 section may be used only to carry out programs, services,
17 or activities that use qualified approaches to community
18 safety.

19 (g) REPORTING.—Beginning not later than one year
20 after the date on which a State receives a grant under
21 this section, and annually thereafter, such State shall pre-
22 pare and submit a report to the Secretary containing in-
23 formation about—

24 (1) how the grant funds were used;

1 (2) the number of people who were cited, ar-
2 rested, or jailed by State or local law enforcement
3 officers in the previous year, as compared to the
4 number cited, arrest, or jailed during the term of
5 the grant;

6 (3) the reasons for such citing, arresting, or
7 jailing; and

8 (4) demographic data of individuals cited, ar-
9 rested, or jailed or referred by State or local law en-
10 forcement officers, disaggregated by race, ethnicity,
11 age, gender, disability status, and socioeconomic sta-
12 tus.

13 (h) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—A State shall
14 use Federal funds received under this section only to sup-
15 plement the funds that would, without such Federal funds,
16 be made available from State and local sources, and not
17 to supplant such funds.

18 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated to implement this sec-
20 tion \$2,500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022
21 through 2026.

22 **SEC. 204. FIRST RESPONDER HIRING GRANTS.**

23 (a) GRANT AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary shall
24 carry out a grant program under which the Secretary
25 makes grants to community-based organizations, health

1 departments, States, units of local government, Indian
2 tribal governments, other public and private entities, and
3 multi-jurisdictional or regional consortia for the purposes
4 described under subsection (b).

5 (b) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—A grant awarded
6 under subsection (a) may be used to—

7 (1) hire and train first responders;

8 (2) procure equipment, technology, support sys-
9 tems, or pay overtime, to increase the number of
10 first responders available to a community;

11 (3) increase the number of first responders in-
12 volved in activities that are focused on interaction
13 with members of the community on crisis response
14 and community violence and trauma prevention;

15 (4) provide training to first responders to en-
16 hance their conflict resolution, mediation, problem
17 solving, service, and other skills needed to work in
18 partnership with members of the community;

19 (5) develop and implement innovative programs
20 that support members of the community to work
21 with community-based organizations, emergency first
22 responders, and State, Tribal, and local officials in
23 community violence and trauma prevention efforts;
24 and

1 (6) establish school-based partnerships by em-
2 ploying and retaining first responders in pre-Kinder-
3 garten, elementary, and secondary schools to support
4 trauma-informed care and behavioral and mental
5 health services, and to operate school-based health
6 centers in local schools.

7 (c) LIMITATION ON GRANT FUNDS.—Funds made
8 available under this section may be used only to carry out
9 programs, services, or activities that use qualified ap-
10 proaches to community safety.

11 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
13 \$2,500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022
14 through 2026.

15 **SEC. 205. NON-DISCRIMINATION.**

16 No person in the United States shall, on the basis
17 of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin,
18 sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), or
19 disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the
20 benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under—

21 (1) any program or activity funded, in whole or
22 in part, with funds made available under this title;
23 or

24 (2) any other program or activity funded, in
25 whole or in part, with funds appropriated for grants,

- 1 cooperative agreements, and other assistance admin-
- 2 istered by the Assistant Secretary.

