

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 68

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

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

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 2017”.

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,
20 cyberbullying, and gang prevention programs”
21 and inserting “interventions such as researched-
22 based anti-bullying, anti-cyberbullying, and
23 gang prevention programs, as well as mental
24 health 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 “\$25,000,000 for each of fiscal
8 years 2018 through 2022”; 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 2018 through 2022, the Attor-
16 ney General shall use up to \$25,000,000 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.).

○