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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Attorney General to make grants to regional gang task forces to prevent violence committed by and against youths, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CONNOLLY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Attorney General to make grants to regional gang task forces to prevent violence committed by and against youths, 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“Preventing Gang Vio-
5 lence Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION**
2 **GRANTS PROGRAM.**

3 (a) NAME OF PROGRAM.—The grant program estab-
4 lished under this section shall be known as the “Commu-
5 nity-Based Violence Prevention Grants Program”.

6 (b) AUTHORIZATION.—The Attorney General is au-
7 thorized to award grants, on a competitive basis, to re-
8 gional gang task forces in order to reduce and prevent vio-
9 lence committed by and against youths.

10 (c) APPLICATION.—A regional gang task force, or a
11 State or unit of local government on behalf of a regional
12 gang task force, seeking a grant under this section shall
13 submit to the Attorney General an application at such
14 time, in such manner, and containing such information as
15 the Attorney General may reasonably require. At a min-
16 imum, each such application shall include each of the fol-
17 lowing:

18 (1) Documentation of the applicant’s record of
19 addressing youth violence by—

20 (A) addressing multiple influences in a
21 child’s life, including individual, family, school,
22 community, and societal influences;

23 (B) embracing positive youth development
24 and well-being;

25 (C) ensuring prevention, intervention, and
26 treatment strategies are trauma-informed;

1 (D) using a comprehensive spectrum of
2 evidence-based (research and practice) strate-
3 gies.;

4 (E) considering the differential impact on
5 populations and how they should be factored
6 into strategy development;

7 (F) involving stakeholders from various
8 sectors, including youth and families, Federal,
9 State, and local governments, tribal law en-
10 forcement, and faith and community-based or-
11 ganizations;

12 (G) training all professionals who interact
13 with youth on their role in preventing and re-
14 ducing trauma and violence, promoting well-
15 being, and avoiding retraumatization through
16 the use of gender-responsive and culturally
17 competent programming for impacted commu-
18 nities;

19 (H) making effective and appropriate use
20 of data;

21 (I) supporting long-term investment to sus-
22 tain initial changes, including public-private
23 funding and development; and

24 (J) allocating efforts and resources based
25 on potential impact and outcome.

1 (2) Evidence of collaboration between the State
2 agency designated by the Governor under section
3 223(a)(1) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
4 Prevention Act of 1974 (34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(1))
5 and relevant stakeholders in developing the grant
6 implementation plan described in paragraph (5).

7 (3) Annual performance measures and targets
8 for the activities intended to be carried out with the
9 grant.

10 (4) A description of the applicant's plan to con-
11 duct a rigorous evaluation of the effectiveness of the
12 activities carried out with the grant.

13 (5) A grant implementation plan, including a
14 proposed strategy to reduce the violence described in
15 subsection (b) that is evidence-based.

16 (6) In the case of an applicant that is a State
17 or unit of local government, a designation of a re-
18 gional gang task force that will be the beneficiary of
19 the funds.

20 (d) EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—In evaluating an application
22 submitted under subsection (c), the Attorney Gen-
23 eral shall evaluate—

24 (A) the applicant's record of addressing
25 youth violence described in subsection (c)(1);

1 (B) the applicant's evaluation plan de-
2 scribed in subsection (c)(4); and

3 (C) the quality and likelihood of success of
4 the applicant's grant implementation plan de-
5 scribed in subsection (c)(5), including the appli-
6 cant's capacity to implement the plan, and evi-
7 dence of the collaboration described in sub-
8 section (c)(2).

9 (2) PUBLICATION.—The Attorney General shall
10 publish an explanation of how applications for
11 grants submitted under subsection (c) will be evalu-
12 ated in order to ensure an objective and fair review
13 process.

14 (e) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Federal share of a
15 grant received under this part may not exceed 75 percent
16 of the total program costs.

17 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
18 authorized to be appropriated to carry out the grant pro-
19 gram under this section \$18,000,000 for each of fiscal
20 years 2019 through 2023.