

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To establish a grant program to provide assistance to local governments with fewer than 200 law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To establish a grant program to provide assistance to local governments with fewer than 200 law enforcement officers, 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 “Invest to Protect Act  
5 of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.**

7       (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

8               (1) DE-ESCALATION TRAINING.—The term “de-  
9       escalation training” means a process or tactic used  
10       to prevent, reduce, or manage behaviors associated

1 with conflict (including verbal or physical agitation,  
2 aggression, violence, or similar behaviors) during an  
3 interaction between not less than 2 individuals.

4 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means  
5 the Director of the Office.

6 (3) ELIGIBLE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term  
7 “eligible local government” means—

8 (A) a county, municipality, town, township,  
9 village, parish, borough, or other unit of general  
10 government below the State level that employs  
11 fewer than 200 law enforcement officers; and

12 (B) a Tribal government that employs  
13 fewer than 200 law enforcement officers.

14 (4) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term  
15 “law enforcement officer” has the meaning given the  
16 term in section 2503 of the Omnibus Crime Control  
17 and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10533).

18 (5) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Of-  
19 fice of Community Oriented Policing Services of the  
20 Department of Justice.

21 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within  
22 the Office a grant program to—

23 (1) provide training, body cameras, and access  
24 to mental health resources to local law enforcement  
25 officers; and

1           (2) improve the recruitment and retention of  
2           local law enforcement officers.

3           (c) **AUTHORITY.**—Not later than 60 days after the  
4           date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall award  
5           grants to eligible local governments as a part of the grant  
6           program established under subsection (b).

7           (d) **APPLICATIONS.**—

8           (1) **BARRIERS.**—The Attorney General shall de-  
9           termine what barriers exist to establishing a stream-  
10          lined application process for grants under this sec-  
11          tion.

12          (2) **REPORT.**—Not later than 30 days after the  
13          date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General  
14          shall submit to Congress a report that includes a  
15          plan to execute a streamlined application process for  
16          grants under this section under which an eligible  
17          local government seeking a grant under this section  
18          can complete the application in not more than 30  
19          minutes.

20          (3) **APPLICATIONS.**—In selecting eligible local  
21          governments to receive grants under this section, the  
22          Director shall use the streamlined application proc-  
23          ess described in paragraph (2).

1 (e) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—An eligible local govern-  
2 ment that receives a grant under this section may use  
3 amounts from the grant only for—

4 (1) de-escalation training for law enforcement  
5 officers;

6 (2) training for law enforcement officers in han-  
7 dling situations of domestic violence;

8 (3) law enforcement officer safety training;

9 (4) the offsetting of overtime costs associated  
10 with scheduling issues when a law enforcement offi-  
11 cer participates in the training described in para-  
12 graphs (1) through (3);

13 (5) the purchasing, storage, operation, and se-  
14 curing of body cameras in accordance with guide-  
15 lines established by the eligible local government or  
16 the Attorney General under subsection (f)(2) until  
17 the eligible local government establishes such guide-  
18 lines;

19 (6) a signing bonus for a law enforcement offi-  
20 cer in an amount determined by the eligible local  
21 government;

22 (7) a retention bonus for a law enforcement of-  
23 ficer in an amount determined by the eligible local  
24 government;

1           (8) a stipend for the graduate education of law  
2 enforcement officers in the area of mental health,  
3 public health, or social work, which shall not exceed  
4 the lesser of—

5                   (A) \$10,000; or

6                   (B) the amount the law enforcement offi-  
7 cer pays towards such graduate education; and

8           (9) providing access to patient-centered behav-  
9 ioral health services for law enforcement officers,  
10 which may include resources for risk assessments,  
11 evidence-based, trauma-informed care to treat post-  
12 traumatic stress disorder or acute stress disorder,  
13 peer support and counselor services and family sup-  
14 ports, and the promotion of improved access to high  
15 quality mental health care through telehealth.

16 (f) BODY CAMERA GUIDELINES.—

17           (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible local government  
18 that uses funds from a grant under this section for  
19 the purpose described in subsection (e)(5) shall—

20                   (A) follow guidelines established by the eli-  
21 gible local government or the State in which the  
22 eligible local government is located relating to  
23 the purchasing, storage, operation, and securing  
24 of body cameras based on existing industry best  
25 practices; or

1 (B) if the guidelines described in subpara-  
2 graph (A) do not yet exist, follow the guidelines  
3 established under paragraph (2).

4 (2) FEDERAL GUIDELINES.—Not later than 60  
5 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the At-  
6 torney General shall establish guidelines relating to  
7 the purchasing, storage, operation, and securing of  
8 body cameras that are based on existing industry  
9 best practices.

10 (g) DISCLOSURE OF OFFICER RECRUITMENT AND  
11 RETENTION BONUSES.—Not later than 60 days after the  
12 date on which an eligible local government that receives  
13 a grant under this section awards a signing or retention  
14 bonus described in paragraph (6) or (7) of subsection (e),  
15 the eligible local government shall disclose to the Director  
16 and make publicly available on a website of the eligible  
17 local government the amount of such bonus.

18 (h) GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY.—All grants awarded  
19 by the Director under this section shall be subject to the  
20 following accountability provisions:

21 (1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

22 (A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the  
23 term “unresolved audit finding” means a find-  
24 ing in the final audit report of the Inspector  
25 General of the Department of Justice that the

1 audited grantee has used grant funds for an  
2 unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallow-  
3 able cost that is not closed or resolved within  
4 12 months from the date when the final audit  
5 report is issued.

6 (B) AUDITS.—Beginning in the first fiscal  
7 year beginning after the date of enactment of  
8 this subsection, and in each fiscal year there-  
9 after, the Inspector General of the Department  
10 of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of  
11 grants under this section to prevent waste,  
12 fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The In-  
13 spector General of the Department of Justice  
14 shall determine the appropriate number of  
15 grantees to be audited each year.

16 (C) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient  
17 of grant funds under this section that is found  
18 to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be  
19 eligible to receive grant funds under this section  
20 during the first 2 fiscal years beginning after  
21 the end of the 12-month period described in  
22 subparagraph (A).

23 (D) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under  
24 this section, the Director shall give priority to  
25 eligible local governments that did not have an

1           unresolved audit finding during the 3 fiscal  
2           years before submitting an application for a  
3           grant under this section.

4           (E) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an eligible local  
5           government is awarded grant funds under this  
6           section during the 2-fiscal-year period during  
7           which the eligible local government is barred  
8           from receiving grants under subparagraph (C),  
9           the Attorney General shall—

10                   (i) deposit an amount equal to the  
11                   amount of the grant funds that were im-  
12                   properly awarded to the grantee into the  
13                   General Fund of the Treasury; and

14                   (ii) seek to recoup the costs of the re-  
15                   payment to the fund from the grant recipi-  
16                   ent that was erroneously awarded grant  
17                   funds.

18           (2) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the  
19           fiscal year during which audits commence under  
20           paragraph (1)(B), the Attorney General shall submit  
21           to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Com-  
22           mittee on Appropriations of the Senate and the  
23           Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on  
24           Appropriations of the House of Representatives an  
25           annual certification—



1 (A) indicating whether—

2 (i) all audits issued by the Office of  
3 the Inspector General of the Department  
4 of Justice under paragraph (1) have been  
5 completed and reviewed by the appropriate  
6 Assistant Attorney General or Director;

7 (ii) all mandatory exclusions required  
8 under paragraph (1)(C) have been issued;  
9 and

10 (iii) all reimbursements required  
11 under paragraph (1)(E) have been made;  
12 and

13 (B) that includes a list of any grant recipi-  
14 ents excluded under paragraph (1) from the  
15 previous year.

16 (i) PREVENTING DUPLICATIVE GRANTS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Director awards  
18 a grant to an eligible local government under this  
19 section, the Attorney General shall compare poten-  
20 tial grant awards with other grants awarded by the  
21 Attorney General to determine if grant awards are  
22 or have been awarded for a similar purpose.

23 (2) REPORT.—If the Attorney General awards  
24 grants to the same applicant for a similar purpose  
25 the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee

1 on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee  
2 on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a  
3 report that includes—

4 (A) a list of all such grants awarded, in-  
5 cluding the total dollar amount of any such  
6 grants awarded; and

7 (B) the reason the Attorney General  
8 awarded multiple grants to the same applicant  
9 for a similar purpose.

10 (j) FUNDING.—In carrying out this section, the Di-  
11 rector—

12 (1) shall use amounts otherwise made available  
13 to the Office; and

14 (2) may use not more than \$50,000,000 of such  
15 amounts for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.