

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3523

To extend the same Federal benefits to law enforcement officers serving private institutions of higher education and rail carriers, that apply to law enforcement officers serving units of State and local government.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2003

Mr. BELL (for himself, Mr. COLE, Mr. CANNON, and Mr. JEFFERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To extend the same Federal benefits to law enforcement officers serving private institutions of higher education and rail carriers, that apply to law enforcement officers serving units of State and local government.

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 “Equity in Law En-
5 forcement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH AND DISABILITY BENEFITS.**

2 Section 1204(8) of part L of the Omnibus Crime
3 Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C.
4 3796b(8)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “or” at
6 the end;

7 (2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period
8 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(D) an individual who is—

11 “(i) serving a private institution of
12 higher education in an official capacity,
13 with or without compensation, as a law en-
14 forcement officer; and

15 “(ii) sworn, licensed, or certified
16 under the laws of a State for the purposes
17 of law enforcement (and trained to meet
18 the training standards for law enforcement
19 officers established by the relevant govern-
20 mental appointing authority); or

21 “(E) a rail police officer who is—

22 “(i) employed by a rail carrier; and

23 “(ii) sworn, licensed, or certified
24 under the laws of a State for the purposes
25 of law enforcement (and trained to meet
26 the training standards for law enforcement

1 officers established by the relevant govern-
2 mental appointing authority).”.

3 **SEC. 3. LAW ENFORCEMENT ARMOR VESTS.**

4 (a) GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 2501 of part Y of the
5 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
6 U.S.C. 3796ll) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) by striking “and Indian tribes” and in-
9 serting “Indian tribes, private institutions of
10 higher education, and rail carriers”; and

11 (B) by inserting before the period the fol-
12 lowing: “and law enforcement officers serving
13 private institutions of higher education and rail
14 carriers who are sworn, licensed, or certified
15 under the laws of a State for the purposes of
16 law enforcement (and trained to meet the train-
17 ing standards for law enforcement officers es-
18 tablished by the relevant governmental appoint-
19 ing authority)”;

20 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “or Indian
21 tribe” and inserting “Indian tribe, private institution
22 of higher education, or rail carrier”; and

23 (3) in subsection (e), by striking “or Indian
24 tribe” and inserting “Indian tribe, private institution
25 of higher education, or rail carrier”.

1 (b) APPLICATIONS.—Section 2502 of part Y of the
2 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
3 U.S.C. 3796ll–1) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “or Indian
5 tribe” and inserting “Indian tribe, private institution
6 of higher education, or rail carrier”; and

7 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “and Indian
8 tribes” and inserting “Indian tribes, private institu-
9 tions of higher education, and rail carriers”.

10 (c) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2503(6) of part Y of the
11 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42
12 U.S.C. 3796ll–2(6)) is amended by striking “or Indian
13 tribe” and inserting “Indian tribe, private institution of
14 higher education, or rail carrier”.

15 **SEC. 4. OTHER GRANTS.**

16 Section 510(a)(2) of chapter A of subpart 2 of part
17 E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets
18 Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3760(a)(2)) is amended by strik-
19 ing “and local units of government” and inserting “, units
20 of local government, private institutions of higher edu-
21 cation, and rail carriers”.

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