

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4034

AN ACT

To amend the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 to authorize grants for the expansion of recreation opportunities for at risk youth in urban areas with a high prevalence of crime, and for other purposes.

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To amend the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 to authorize grants for the expansion of recreation opportunities for at risk youth in urban areas with a high prevalence of crime, 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 “Urban Recreation and
5 At-Risk Youth Act of 1994”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Section 1002 of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
3 covery Act of 1978 is amended by striking “and” at the
4 end of subsection (d), by striking the period at the end
5 of subsection (e) and inserting “;” and by adding the fol-
6 lowing at the end thereof:

7 “(f) the quality of life in urban areas has suf-
8 fered because of decline in the availability of park
9 and recreation and systems, including land, facilities,
10 and services;

11 “(g) the deterioration of urban park and recre-
12 ation facilities is due in part to the underfunding of
13 Federal grant programs intended to assist in the re-
14 vitalization of urban recreation facilities and allow
15 us to take back our parks from crime, vandalism,
16 and dilapidation;

17 “(h) the urban neighborhoods eligible for assist-
18 ance under this title have deteriorated, in part, due
19 to the rapid increase in violent crime among youth;

20 “(i) accessible, well-maintained recreational fa-
21 cilities and services have been shown to significantly
22 decrease the incidence of violent crime among youth
23 and can be an effective tool in efforts to prevent
24 crime, increase public safety and improve the quality
25 of life of urban residents; and

1 “(j) urban sport and recreation programs teach
2 important values and life skills including teamwork,
3 individual responsibility, respect, leadership, and
4 self-esteem which help prevent young people from
5 engaging in criminal behavior.”.

6 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE OF ASSISTANCE.**

7 Section 1003 of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
8 covery Act of 1978 is amended by adding the following
9 at the end thereof: “It is further the purpose of this title
10 to improve recreation facilities and expand recreation serv-
11 ices in urban areas with a high incidence of crime and
12 to help deter crime through the expansion of recreation
13 opportunities for at-risk youth. It is the further purpose
14 of this section to increase the security of urban parks and
15 to promote collaboration between local agencies involved
16 in parks and recreation, law enforcement, youth social
17 services, and the juvenile justice system.”.

18 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

19 Section 1004 of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
20 covery Act of 1978 is amended by inserting the following
21 new subsection after subsection (c) and by redesignating
22 subsections (d) through (j) as (e) through (k) respectively:

23 “(d) ‘at-risk youth recreation grants’ means—

24 “(1) rehabilitation grants,

25 “(2) innovation grants, or

1 “(3) matching grants for continuing pro-
2 gram support for programs of demonstrated
3 value or success in providing constructive alter-
4 natives to youth at risk for engaging in criminal
5 behavior, including grants for operating, or co-
6 ordinating recreation programs and services;
7 in neighborhoods and communities with a high prev-
8 alence of crime, particularly violent crime or crime
9 committed by youthful offenders; in addition to the
10 purposes specified in subsection (b), rehabilitation
11 grants referred to in paragraph (1) of this sub-
12 section may be used for the provision of lighting,
13 emergency phones or other capital improvements
14 which will improve the security of urban parks;”.

15 **SEC. 5. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION.**

16 Section 1005(c) of the Urban Park and Recreation
17 Recovery Act of 1978 is amended by striking “and” at
18 the end of paragraph (6), by striking the period at the
19 end of paragraph (7) and inserting “; and” and by adding
20 the following at the end thereof:

21 “(8) in the case of at-risk youth recreation
22 grants, the Secretary shall give a priority to each of
23 the following criteria:

1 “(A) Programs which are targeted to
2 youth who are at the greatest risk of becoming
3 involved in violence and crime.

4 “(B) Programs which teach important val-
5 ues and life skills, including teamwork, respect,
6 leadership, and self-esteem.

7 “(C) Programs which offer tutoring, reme-
8 dial education, mentoring, and counseling in ad-
9 dition to recreation opportunities.

10 “(D) Programs which offer services during
11 late night or other nonschool hours.

12 “(E) Programs which demonstrate collabo-
13 ration between local park and recreation, juve-
14 nile justice, law enforcement, and youth social
15 service agencies and nongovernmental entities,
16 including the private sector and community and
17 nonprofit organizations.

18 “(F) Programs which leverage public or
19 private recreation investments in the form of
20 services, materials, or cash.

21 “(G) Programs which show the greatest
22 potential of being continued with non-Federal
23 funds or which can serve as models for other
24 communities.”.

1 **SEC. 6. PARK AND RECREATION ACTION RECOVERY**
2 **PROGRAMS.**

3 Section 1007(b) of the Urban Park and Recreation
4 Recovery Act of 1978 is amended by adding the following
5 at the end thereof: “In order to be eligible to receive ‘at-
6 risk youth recreation grants’ a local government shall
7 amend its 5-year action program to incorporate the goal
8 of reducing crime and juvenile delinquency and to provide
9 a description of the implementation strategies to achieve
10 this goal. The plan shall also address how the local govern-
11 ment is coordinating its recreation programs with crime
12 prevention efforts of law enforcement, juvenile corrections,
13 and youth social service agencies.”.

14 **SEC. 7. MISCELLANEOUS AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

15 (a) PROGRAM SUPPORT.—Section 1013 of the Urban
16 Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 is amended
17 by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” after “1013.” and by
18 adding the following new subsection at the end thereof:

19 “(b) PROGRAM SUPPORT.—Not more than 25 per-
20 cent of the amounts made available under this title to any
21 local government may be used for program support.”.

22 (b) EXTENSION.—Section 1003 of the Urban Park
23 and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 is amended by strik-

1 ing “for a period of five years” and by striking “short-
2 term”.

Passed the House of Representatives March 22,
1994.

Attest:

Clerk.