

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2482

To assist States and units of local government in carrying out Safe Homes-Safe Streets programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 27, 2000

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To assist States and units of local government in carrying out Safe Homes-Safe Streets programs.

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 “Safe Homes-Safe
5 Streets Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to reduce firearm circula-
8 tion by assisting State and local law enforcement agencies
9 in carrying out Safe Homes-Safe Streets programs.

1 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) FIREARM.—The term “firearm” has the
4 meaning given the term in section 921(a) of title 18,
5 United States Code.

6 (2) SAFE HOMES-SAFE STREETS PROGRAM.—
7 The term “Safe Homes-Safe Streets program”
8 means a program carried out by a law enforcement
9 agency of a State or unit of local government under
10 which—

11 (A) the law enforcement agency shall—

12 (i) accept the voluntary surrender of
13 firearms from individuals seeking to dis-
14 pose of them;

15 (ii) provide gift certificates or other
16 goods in exchange for firearms;

17 (iii) provide cash in exchange for fire-
18 arms (in a value not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ of the
19 estimated cost of a new similar firearm);

20 or

21 (iv) use any other innovative approach
22 to cause a voluntary reduction in the num-
23 ber of firearms in the State or local com-
24 munities;

25 (B) the law enforcement agency may con-
26 duct a criminal background check regarding the

1 ownership of each firearm surrendered or may
 2 offer amnesty from such background checks, to
 3 the extent that the policy regarding criminal
 4 background checks is uniformly applied; and

5 (C) upon the surrender of a firearm, the
 6 law enforcement agency shall—

7 (i) determine whether such firearm
 8 may potentially serve as evidence in any
 9 criminal investigation or prosecution; and

10 (ii) if the firearm is not needed as
 11 evidence—

12 (I) destroy the firearm; or

13 (II) if the firearm is a curio or
 14 relic or has historical significance, do-
 15 nate the firearm to a State or local
 16 museum for display.

17 **SEC. 4. SAFE HOMES-SAFE STREETS PROGRAM GRANTS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may award
 19 grants to States or units of local government in accord-
 20 ance with this section, which shall be used to establish and
 21 implement Safe Homes-Safe Streets programs.

22 (b) APPLICATIONS.—In order to be eligible to receive
 23 a grant under this section, the chief executive of a State
 24 or unit of local government shall submit to the Attorney
 25 General an application, in such form and containing such

1 information as the Attorney General may reasonably re-
2 quire.

3 (c) DISTRIBUTION.—The Attorney General shall dis-
4 tribute grant amounts awarded under this section directly
5 to the recipient State or unit of local government.

6 (d) RENEWAL.—A State or unit of local government
7 shall be eligible to apply for and receive a grant under
8 this section annually.

9 (e) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
11 the Attorney General may not make a grant to a
12 State or unit of local government under this section
13 unless that State or unit of local government agrees
14 that, with respect to the costs to be incurred by the
15 State or unit of local government in carrying out the
16 Safe Homes–Safe Streets program for which the
17 grant was awarded, the State will make available
18 (directly or through donations from public or private
19 entities) non-Federal contributions in an amount
20 equal to not less than 50 percent of such costs.

21 (2) WAIVER.—The Attorney General may waive
22 the requirement of paragraph (1), in whole or in
23 part, upon a finding of fiscal hardship on the part
24 of a grant recipient.

1 (f) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the
2 date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall
3 promulgate regulations to implement this section, which
4 shall specify—

5 (1) the information to be included in an appli-
6 cation for a grant under this section; and

7 (2) the requirements that a State or unit of
8 local government shall meet in submitting such an
9 application.

10 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
12 this Act \$15,000,000 for each fiscal year.

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