

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2696

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to provide grants to community mental health centers for the placement of social workers with law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2019

Mr. HARDER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to provide grants to community mental health centers for the placement of social workers with law enforcement agencies, 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 “Supporting the Health  
5 and Safety of Law Enforcement Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.**

7 Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment  
8 of this Act, the Attorney General shall establish a pilot

1 program to provide grants to community mental health  
2 centers for the placement of social workers with law en-  
3 forcement agencies to facilitate closer coordination on law  
4 enforcement issues with an underlying connection to men-  
5 tal health.

6 **SEC. 3. NUMBER AND AMOUNT OF GRANTS.**

7 The Attorney General shall award not more than 4  
8 grants each fiscal year to community mental health cen-  
9 ters (as such term is defined in section 1861 of the Social  
10 Security Act) in each of the 4 census regions. Each such  
11 grant shall be in an amount not to exceed \$300,000. The  
12 term of such a grant shall be 3 years. Each such mental  
13 health center shall partner with a law enforcement agency  
14 that employs not more than 100 officers in order to carry  
15 out the purposes of the grant.

16 **SEC. 4. ELIGIBILITY FOR PLACEMENT WITH A LAW EN-  
17 FORCEMENT AGENCY.**

18 To be eligible for placement with a law enforcement  
19 agency under this Act, a social worker shall be—

- 20 (1) licensed under the applicable State law; and  
21 (2) employed by a community mental health  
22 center.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
3 this Act \$2,500,000 for fiscal years 2020, 2021, and  
4 2022.

5 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION OF PROGRAM; REPORT TO CON-**  
6 **GRESS.**

7       This Act is repealed on the date that is 3 years after  
8 a grant is first made under this Act. The Attorney General  
9 shall report to Congress not later than six months there-  
10 after on the outcomes of any cases where the social worker  
11 became involved and the total number of such cases, and  
12 any other information deemed relevant.

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