

106<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4033

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify the procedures and conditions for the award of matching grants for the purchase of armor vests.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 2000

Mr. VISCLOSKY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify the procedures and conditions for the award of matching grants for the purchase of armor vests.

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 “Bulletproof Vest Part-  
5 nership Grant Act of 2000”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1           (1) the number of law enforcement officers who  
2           are killed in the line of duty would significantly de-  
3           crease if every law enforcement officer in the United  
4           States had the protection of an armor vest;

5           (2) according to studies, between 1985 and  
6           1994, 709 law enforcement officers in the United  
7           States were feloniously killed in the line of duty;

8           (3) the Federal Bureau of Investigation esti-  
9           mates that the risk of fatality to law enforcement of-  
10          ficers while not wearing an armor vest is 14 times  
11          higher than for officers wearing an armor vest;

12          (4) according to studies, between 1985 and  
13          1994, bullet-resistant materials helped save the lives  
14          of more than 2,000 law enforcement officers in the  
15          United States; and

16          (5) the Executive Committee for Indian Coun-  
17          try Law Enforcement Improvements reports that  
18          violent crime in Indian country has risen sharply,  
19          despite a decrease in the national crime rate, and  
20          has concluded that there is a “public safety crisis in  
21          Indian country”.

22 **SEC. 3. MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR LAW ENFORCE-**  
23 **MENT ARMOR VESTS.**

24          (a) MATCHING FUNDS.—Section 2501(f) (42 U.S.C.  
25 3796ll(f) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “The portion” and inserting the  
2 following:

3 “(1) The portion”;

4 (2) by striking “subsection (a)” and all that fol-  
5 lows through the period at the end of the first sen-  
6 tence and inserting “subsection (a)—

7 “(A) may not exceed 50 percent; and

8 “(B) shall equal 50 percent, if—

9 “(i) such grant is to a unit of local  
10 government with fewer than 100,000 resi-  
11 dents;

12 “(ii) the Director of the Bureau of  
13 Justice Assistance determines that the  
14 quantity of vests to be purchased with such  
15 grant is reasonable; and

16 “(iii) such portion does not cause such  
17 grant to violate the requirements of sub-  
18 section (e).”; and

19 (3) by striking “Any funds” and inserting the  
20 following:

21 “(2) Any funds”.

22 (b) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Section 2501(g) (42  
23 U.S.C. 3796ll(g)) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe  
24 Streets Act of 1968 is amended to read as follows:

1       “(g) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—Funds available  
2 under this part shall be awarded, without regard to sub-  
3 section (c), to each qualifying unit of local government  
4 with fewer than 100,000 residents. Any remaining funds  
5 available under this part shall be awarded to other quali-  
6 fying applicants.”.

7       (c) APPLICATIONS.—Section 2502 (42 U.S.C.  
8 3796ll–1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets  
9 Act of 1968 is amended by inserting after subsection (c)  
10 the following new subsection:

11       “(d) APPLICATIONS IN CONJUNCTION WITH PUR-  
12 CHASES.—If an application under this section is submitted  
13 in conjunction with a transaction for the purchase of  
14 armor vests, grant amounts under this section may not  
15 be used to fund any portion of that purchase unless, before  
16 the application is submitted, the applicant—

17               “(1) receives clear and conspicuous notice that  
18       receipt of the grant amounts requested in the appli-  
19       cation is uncertain; and

20               “(2) expressly assumes the obligation to carry  
21       out the transaction regardless of whether such  
22       amounts are received.”.

23       (d) DEFINITION OF ARMOR VEST.—Paragraph (1) of  
24 section 2503 (42 U.S.C. 3796ll–2) of such Act is  
25 amended—

1 (1) by striking “means body armor” and insert-  
2 ing the following: “means—

3 “(A) body armor”; and

4 (2) by inserting after the semicolon at the end  
5 the following: “or

6 “(B) body armor which has been tested  
7 through such voluntary compliance testing pro-  
8 gram, and found to meet or exceed the require-  
9 ments of NIJ Standard 0115.00, or any subse-  
10 quent revision of such standard;”.

11 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section  
12 1001(a)(23) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe  
13 Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)(23)) is amended  
14 by striking the period at the end and inserting the fol-  
15 lowing: “, and \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2002  
16 through 2004.”.

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