

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1280
OFFERED BY MR. RICE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Add, at the end of the bill, the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

1 **SEC. 503. REAUTHORIZATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT**
2 **GRANT PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) REAUTHORIZATION OF COPS ON THE BEAT
4 GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 1001(a)(11)(A) of title I of
5 the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968
6 (34 U.S.C. 10261(a)(11)(A)) is amended by striking “part
7 Q, to remain available until expended \$1,047,119,000 for
8 each of fiscal years 2006 through 2009” and inserting
9 “part Q, including section 1701(n), to remain available
10 until expended \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022
11 through 2031”.

12 (b) USES OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Section 1701(b) of
13 title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act
14 of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381(b)), as amended by this Act,
15 is further amended—

16 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through
17 (27) as paragraphs (4) through (28), respectively;

18 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
19 lowing:

1 “(3) in the case of any State or unit of local
2 government that has a median household income of
3 less than 70 percent of the national median house-
4 hold income and qualifies for a reduced contribution
5 under subsection (g)(2), to increase wages of career
6 law enforcement officers to not more than 80 per-
7 cent of the national median household income;” and

8 (3) in paragraph (27), as redesignated, by
9 striking “through (25)” and inserting “through
10 (26)”.

11 (c) PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.—Section
12 1701(c) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
13 Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10381(c)) is amended—

14 (1) by striking paragraph (1); and

15 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as
16 paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively.

17 (d) COST SHARE.—Section 1701(g) of title I of the
18 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
19 U.S.C. 10381(g)) is amended to read as follows:

20 “(g) MATCHING FUNDS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
22 graph (2), the portion of the costs of a program,
23 project, or activity provided by a grant under sub-
24 section (a) may not exceed 75 percent, unless the
25 Attorney General waives, wholly or in part, the re-

1 requirement under this subsection of a non-Federal
2 contribution to the costs of a program, project, or
3 activity. In relation to a grant for a period exceeding
4 1 year for hiring or rehiring or increasing the com-
5 pensation of career law enforcement officers, the
6 Federal share shall decrease from year to year for
7 up to 5 years, looking toward the continuation of the
8 increased hiring and compensation level using State
9 or local sources of funding following the conclusion
10 of Federal support, as provided in an approved plan
11 pursuant to section 1702(c)(8).

12 “(2) REDUCED NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBU-
13 TION.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The portion of the
15 costs of a program, project, or activity provided
16 by a grant under subsection (a), in any State
17 or unit of local government described in sub-
18 paragraph (B), may not exceed—

19 “(i) 90 percent for the first year of
20 the grant;

21 “(ii) 85 percent for the second year of
22 the grant;

23 “(iii) 80 percent for the third year of
24 the grant; and

1 “(iv) 75 percent for the fourth year of
2 the grant.

3 “(B) STATE OR UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERN-
4 MENT DESCRIBED.—A State or unit of local
5 government described in this subparagraph is
6 any State or unit of local government—

7 “(i) with a median household income
8 that is not more than 80 percent of the na-
9 tional median household income;

10 “(ii) that does not provide a single
11 employee with compensation that is more
12 than double the national median household
13 income; and

14 “(iii) that is a rural State, rural com-
15 munity, or rural area as such terms are
16 defined in section 40002(a) of the Violent
17 Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act
18 of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(26)(A)) is
19 amended”.

20 (e) COPS PROGRAM.—Section 1701(a) of title I of the
21 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
22 U.S.C. 10381(a)) is amended to read as follows:

23 “(a) THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLIC-
24 ING SERVICES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is within the Depart-
2 ment of Justice, under the general authority of the
3 Attorney General, a separate and distinct office to
4 be known as the Office of Community Oriented Po-
5 licing Services (referred to in this subsection as the
6 ‘COPS Office’).

7 “(2) DIRECTOR.—The COPS Office shall be
8 headed by a Director who shall—

9 “(A) be appointed by the Attorney Gen-
10 eral; and

11 “(B) have final authority over grants
12 under this part and any other grants, coopera-
13 tive agreements, and contracts awarded by the
14 COPS Office.”.

15 (f) LIMITATION ON HIRING AND REHIRING.—Section
16 1704(c) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe
17 Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10384(c)) is amended to
18 read as follows:

19 “(c) HIRING AND COMPENSATION COST.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Funding provided under
21 this part for hiring or re hiring a career law enforce-
22 ment officer may not exceed \$75,000, unless the At-
23 torney General grants a waiver from this limitation.

24 “(2) REDUCED CONTRIBUTION.—In the case of
25 a jurisdiction that qualifies for a reduced contribu-

1 tion under section 1701(g)(2), a career law enforce-
2 ment officer who is hired or rehired or whose com-
3 pensation is increased under this part may not re-
4 ceive from any funding provided under this part
5 compensation exceeding 80 percent of the national
6 median household income for work performed as an
7 on-duty law enforcement officer.”.

8 (g) DEFINITIONS.—Section 1709 of title I of the Om-
9 nibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
10 U.S.C. 10389) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(9) ‘Attorney General’ means the Attorney
13 General, acting through the COPS Director.”.

14 (h) GAO REPORT.—In fiscal year 2026 and fiscal
15 year 2031 the Comptroller General of the United States,
16 after consultation with the Attorney General, shall submit
17 to Congress and make publicly available a report that pro-
18 vides national averages and averages for department char-
19 acteristic subgroups including at least size of police and
20 sheriff departments and urban or rural designations by
21 jurisdiction detailing—

22 (1) a measure of how representative the exist-
23 ing workforce of the average police and sheriff de-
24 partments is to the community served based on de-
25 mographics which include at least gender and race;

1 (2) the percentage of those employed by the av-
2 erage police and sheriff departments that live in the
3 jurisdiction in which they are currently employed;

4 (3) a measure of average officer pay in police
5 and sheriff departments compared to cost of living
6 in the jurisdiction in which they are currently em-
7 ployed; and

8 (4) legislative and administrative recommenda-
9 tions for improving the percentage of officers that
10 live in the jurisdiction in which they are employed
11 and how representative the law enforcement agency
12 is of the community it serves.

13 (i) FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.—

14 (1) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the fol-
15 lowing:

16 (A) The President’s Task Force on 21st
17 Century Policing highlighted the importance of
18 hiring officers who reflect the diversity and val-
19 ues of the community, and who have both the
20 mindset and the skills needed to engage with
21 the community.

22 (B) Diverse workforces can be more effec-
23 tive, creative, and resilient than homogenous
24 workforces, and teams with broader perspec-
25 tives result in better decision-making and prob-

1 lem-solving practices. Recruiting a diverse pool
2 of candidates includes qualified individuals from
3 different races, genders, ethnicities, and cul-
4 tural backgrounds.

5 (C) Effective recruitment practices can
6 help engender trust, develop good relations with
7 their communities, and ensure that the officers
8 they hire can best serve those communities. Re-
9 cruitment efforts should start in the commu-
10 nity, and law enforcement agencies should con-
11 sider developing youth programs to attract
12 younger generations. This could include Ex-
13 plorer programs, internships through local
14 schools, cadet academies, university partner-
15 ships, and youth mentorship programs that fos-
16 ter special relationships between young adults
17 and departments. Not only do these programs
18 develop enthusiasm for a law enforcement ca-
19 reer, they can also build relationships between
20 law enforcement agencies and the communities
21 they serve.

22 (2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the Sense of
23 Congress that the COPS Office is uniquely suited to
24 empower local law enforcement agencies with the
25 tools needed to fulfill these recommendations, per-

1 taining to law enforcement agencies being reflective
2 of the communities they serve, both demographically
3 and in values and vision, and possessing the mindset
4 and skills needed to engage with the community.

