

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1124

To establish a grant program providing for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of body-worn cameras for law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 26, 2015

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself and Mr. CLEAVER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a grant program providing for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of body-worn cameras for law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Camera Accountability Maintenance and Transparency in Policing Act of 2015” or the “CAM TIP Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. BODY-WORN CAMERA GRANTS.

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 ([42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.](#)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“PART MM—BODY-WORN CAMERA GRANTS

“SEC. 3031. IN GENERAL.

“From amounts made available to carry out this part, the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance may make grants to States, units of local government, and Indian tribes for the acquisition, operation, and maintenance of body-worn cameras for law enforcement officers. In making such grants, the Director shall assess the program proposed by the applicant for the elements described in section 3033.

“SEC. 3032. USES OF FUNDS.

“Grants awarded under this section shall be—

“(1) distributed directly to the State, unit of local government, or Indian tribe; and

“(2) used for the program described under section 3033.

“SEC. 3033. PROGRAM DESCRIBED.

“The program described in this section is any program implemented by a grantee requiring the use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers in that jurisdiction, which—

“(1) establishes policies and procedures for when law enforcement officers should wear, activate, and deactivate body-worn cameras;

“(2) ensures the protection of the civil liberties of members of general public relating to the use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers;

“(3) establishes policies limiting the use of recordings of body-worn cameras to monitor the conduct of law enforcement officers outside of their interactions, in an official capacity, with members of the general public;

“(4) establishes or proposes to develop standards relating to the effective placement, on a law enforcement officer’s body, of a body-worn camera;

“(5) describes the best practices for receiving an accurate narrative from the recordings of body-worn cameras;

“(6) establishes policies for the collection and storage of the recordings of body-worn cameras;

“(7) establishes policies relating to the availability of recordings of body-worn cameras—

“(A) to the general public;

“(B) to victims of crimes; and

“(C) for internal use by the law enforcement agency; and

“(8) has in place guidelines and training courses for law enforcement officers relating to the proper management and use of body-worn cameras.

“SEC. 3034. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

“Funds available under this part shall be awarded to each qualifying unit of local government with fewer than 100,000 residents. Any remaining funds available under this part shall be awarded to other qualifying applicants on a pro rata basis.

“SEC. 3035. MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) FEDERAL SHARE.—The portion of the costs of a program provided by a grant under subsection (a) may not exceed 50 percent. Any funds appropriated by Congress for the activities of any agency of an Indian tribal government or the Bureau of Indian Affairs performing law enforcement functions on any Indian lands may be used to provide the non-Federal share of a matching requirement funded under this subsection.

“(b) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of payments made under this part may be made in cash or in-kind fairly evaluated, including planned equipment or services.”.

SEC. 3. STUDY ON THE COST OF THE PURCHASE AND USE OF BODY-WORN CAMERAS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

(a) **STUDY.**—The Attorney General shall conduct a study on the cost to State and local law enforcement agencies of purchasing and using body-worn cameras or other similar cameras, including gun-mounted cameras.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that contains the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY POLICING AND BODY CAMERA ACCOUNTABILITY.

There shall be established in the Department of Justice a task force to do the following:

(1) The task force shall be created to provide recommendations on community policing, including best practices for creating accountability and transparency.

(2) Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the task force shall provide a report to the Congress, which shall include the recommendations under paragraph (1).

(3) Membership shall include representatives of civil rights organizations, Federal, State, and local law enforcement personnel, and community policing experts.

(4) The task force shall develop proper body-worn camera training protocol.

(5) The task force shall study the impact that citizen review boards could have on investigating cases of alleged police misconduct.

(6) Not later than 1 year after implementation of the body camera requirement policy under section 3033 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1968, the task force shall conduct a survey to determine best practices and effectiveness of the policy with findings to be reported back to the Congress.

SEC. 5. GAO REPORT ON PENTAGON'S 1033 PROGRAM.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Congress a report on the Department of Defense Excess Personal Property Program established pursuant to section 1033 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1997 ([Public Law 104–201](#)), that includes information on—

- (1) which jurisdictions equipment is sent to;
 - (2) the value of equipment sent to each jurisdiction;
 - (3) the level of training provided to officers; and
 - (4) how the equipment is used in the jurisdiction.
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