

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6174

To end crime and disorder on the streets of the United States by restoring civil commitment, addressing vagrancy and homelessness through institutional treatment, and redirecting Federal resources, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Mr. BURCHETT introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Financial 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 end crime and disorder on the streets of the United States by restoring civil commitment, addressing vagrancy and homelessness through institutional treatment, and redirecting Federal resources, 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 “Ending Crime and Dis-
5 order on America’s Streets Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to protect public safety
3 by restoring civil commitment procedures, fighting va-
4 grancy, and redirecting Federal resources toward effective
5 methods of addressing homelessness, including the use of
6 institutional treatment in hospitals or asylums for individ-
7 uals adjudged insane or otherwise unable to care for them-
8 selves.

9 **SEC. 3. RESTORING CIVIL COMMITMENT.**

10 The Attorney General, in consultation with the Sec-
11 retary of Health and Human Services, shall take appro-
12 priate action to—

13 (1) seek, in appropriate cases, the reversal of
14 Federal or State judicial precedents and the termi-
15 nation of consent decrees that impede the policy of
16 the United States of encouraging the civil commit-
17 ment of unhoused individuals; and

18 (2) provide assistance to State and local govern-
19 ments, through technical guidance, grants, or other
20 legally available means, for the identification, adop-
21 tion, and implementation of maximally flexible civil
22 commitment, institutional treatment, and step-down
23 treatment standards that allow for the appropriate
24 commitment and treatment of unhoused individuals.

1 **SEC. 4. FIGHTING VAGRANCY ON AMERICA'S STREETS.**

2 (a) GRANT PRIORITIES.—The Attorney General, the
3 Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary
4 of Housing and Urban Development, and the Secretary
5 of Transportation shall each conduct an assessment of the
6 discretionary grant programs administered by the respec-
7 tive Secretary and determine whether priority for such
8 grants may be given to grantees in States and municipali-
9 ties that, to the maximum extent permitted by law, ac-
10 tively meet the following criteria:

11 (1) Establish, implement, or enforce Federal
12 and State prohibitions on illicit drug use in public
13 places.

14 (2) Establish, implement, or enforce Federal
15 and State prohibitions on urban camping and loi-
16 tering.

17 (3) Establish, implement, or enforce Federal
18 and State prohibitions on urban squatting.

19 (4) Enforce, and where necessary, adopt stand-
20 ards that address unhoused individuals, through as-
21 sisted outpatient treatment or by moving such indi-
22 viduals into treatment centers or other appropriate
23 facilities through the use of civil commitment or
24 other available means.

25 (5) Substantially implement and comply with
26 the registration and notification requirements of the

1 Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34
2 U.S.C. 20901 et seq.), particularly with respect to
3 sex offenders who are required to register and who
4 have no fixed address, including by adequately map-
5 ping and checking the location of unhoused individ-
6 uals who are sex offenders.

7 (b) ADDITIONAL ACTIONS BY THE ATTORNEY GEN-
8 ERAL.—The Attorney General shall—

9 (1) ensure that unhoused individuals arrested
10 for Federal crimes are evaluated, consistent with
11 section 4248 of title 18, United States Code, to de-
12 termine whether they are sexually dangerous persons
13 and if appropriate, certified accordingly for civil
14 commitment;

15 (2) take all necessary steps to ensure the avail-
16 ability of funds under the Emergency Federal Law
17 Enforcement Assistance Program under the Justice
18 Assistance Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 50101 et seq.) to
19 support, consistent with the requirements under
20 such Program, encampment removal efforts in areas
21 for which public safety is at risk and State and local
22 resources are inadequate;

23 (3) assess Federal resources to determine
24 whether they may be directed toward ensuring, to
25 the extent permitted by law, that detainees with seri-

1 ous mental illness are not released into the public
2 because of a lack of forensic bed capacity at appro-
3 priate local, State, and Federal jails or hospitals;
4 and

5 (4) enhance requirements that prisons and resi-
6 dential reentry centers that are under the authority
7 of the Attorney General or receive funding from the
8 Attorney General require in-custody housing release
9 plans and, to the maximum extent practicable, re-
10 quire individuals to comply.

11 **SEC. 5. REDIRECTING FEDERAL RESOURCES TOWARD EF-**
12 **FECTIVE METHODS OF ADDRESSING HOME-**
13 **LESSNESS.**

14 (a) ACTIONS BY THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
15 HUMAN SERVICES.—The Secretary of Health and Human
16 Services shall take appropriate action to—

17 (1) ensure that discretionary grants issued by
18 the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
19 Administration for substance use disorder preven-
20 tion, treatment, and recovery fund evidence-based
21 programs and do not fund programs that fail to
22 achieve adequate outcomes, including efforts termed
23 as harm reduction or safe consumption efforts;

24 (2) provide technical assistance to assisted out-
25 patient treatment programs for unhoused individuals

1 with serious mental illness or addiction administered
2 by the Secretary during and after the initiation of
3 any civil commitment process under section 4246 of
4 title 18, United States Code, that are focused on as-
5 sisting such individuals in finding private housing
6 and support networks; and

7 (3) ensure that Federal funds for Federally
8 qualified health centers (as defined in section
9 1861(aa) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
10 1395x(aa))) and certified community behavioral
11 health clinics (as described in section 223 of the
12 Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (42
13 U.S.C. 1396a note; Public Law 113–93)) reduce,
14 rather than promote, homelessness by supporting, to
15 the maximum extent permitted by law, comprehen-
16 sive services for unhoused individuals with serious
17 mental illness and substance use disorder, including
18 crisis intervention services.

19 (b) COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—The
20 Secretary of Health and Human Services shall coordinate
21 with the Attorney General and other relevant agencies to
22 ensure that Federal resources support the transfer of eligi-
23 ble persons to mental hospitals or asylums, including those
24 returned from foreign countries who have been legally ad-
25 judged insane.

1 **SEC. 6. INCREASING ACCOUNTABILITY AND SAFETY IN**
2 **AMERICA'S HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
4 Human Services and the Secretary of Housing and Urban
5 Development shall each take appropriate actions to in-
6 crease accountability with respect to the administration by
7 the respective Secretary of programs providing for assist-
8 ance, including through the award of grants, relating to
9 homelessness and transitional living. Such actions shall in-
10 clude, to the extent permitted by law—

11 (1) ending support for “housing first” policies
12 that deprioritize accountability and fail to promote
13 treatment, recovery, and self-sufficiency;

14 (2) increasing competition among grantees
15 through broadening the applicant pool; and

16 (3) holding grantees to higher standards of ef-
17 fectiveness in reducing homelessness and increasing
18 public safety.

19 (b) HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.—The
20 Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, as
21 the Secretary determines appropriate, take steps to re-
22 quire recipients of Federal housing and homelessness as-
23 sistance to increase requirements that persons partici-
24 pating in the recipients' programs who suffer from sub-
25 stance use disorder or serious mental illness use substance

1 abuse treatment or mental health services as a condition
2 of participation.

3 (c) SAFE CONSUMPTION SITES.—With respect to re-
4 cipients of Federal housing and homelessness assistance
5 that operate drug injection sites or “safe consumption
6 sites,” knowingly distribute drug paraphernalia, or permit
7 the use or distribution of illicit drugs on property under
8 their control—

9 (1) the Attorney General shall review whether
10 such recipients are in violation of Federal law, in-
11 cluding 21 U.S.C. 856, and bring civil or criminal
12 actions in appropriate cases; and

13 (2) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-
14 opment, in coordination with the Attorney General,
15 shall review whether such recipients are in violation
16 of the terms of the programs pursuant to which they
17 receive Federal housing and homelessness assistance
18 and freeze their assistance as the Secretary deems
19 appropriate.

20 (d) HOUSING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.—The Sec-
21 retary of Housing and Urban Development shall take ap-
22 propriate measures and revise regulations as necessary to
23 allow, where permissible under applicable law, federally
24 funded programs to exclusively house women and children
25 and to stop sex offenders who receive homelessness assist-

1 ance through such programs from being housed with unre-
2 lated children.

3 (e) **COLLECTION OF CERTAIN HEALTH-RELATED IN-**
4 **FORMATION.**—The Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
5 velopment, in consultation with the Attorney General and
6 the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall, as ap-
7 propriate, and to the extent permitted by law—

8 (1) allow or require the recipients of Federal
9 funding for homelessness assistance to collect health-
10 related information that the Secretary of Housing
11 and Urban Development identifies as necessary for
12 the effective and efficient operation of the funding
13 program from all persons to whom such assistance
14 is provided; and

15 (2) require those funding recipients to share
16 such data with law enforcement authorities in cir-
17 cumstances permitted by law and to use the col-
18 lected health data to provide appropriate medical
19 care to individuals with mental health diagnoses or
20 to connect individuals to public health resources.

21 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

22 In this Act:

23 (1) **STEP-DOWN TREATMENT.**—The term “step-
24 down treatment” means a structured, phased ap-
25 proach designed to transition unhoused individuals

1 or requiring medical intervention from intensive care
2 to less intensive, community-based or outpatient
3 services to promote recovery, stability, and self-suffi-
4 ciency.

5 (2) UNHOUSED INDIVIDUAL.—The term
6 “unhoused individual” means an individual who—

7 (A) poses risks to themselves or the public
8 or are living on the streets; and

9 (B) cannot care for themselves or be shel-
10 tered in an appropriate facility for a period of
11 3 consecutive months or longer.

12 (3) URBAN CAMPING.—The term “urban camp-
13 ing” means any temporary outdoor shelter, including
14 tents, tarps, bedding, or vehicles used for sleeping or
15 residing for a period exceeding 24 hours in a single
16 location on public or private property not designated
17 for recreational use, where such shelter serves as a
18 primary living accommodation rather than transient
19 recreation.

20 (4) URBAN SQUATTING.—The term “urban
21 squatting” means the unauthorized occupation or
22 use of vacant or abandoned buildings, structures, or
23 land by individuals or groups.

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