

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8849

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve the COPS program with respect to training command-level personnel, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2026

Mr. FRY (for himself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve the COPS program with respect to training command-level personnel, 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 “Promoting Police
5 Leadership Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMMANDER CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 901(a) of title I of the
3 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
4 U.S.C. 10251(a)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (32), by striking “and” at the
6 end;

7 (2) in paragraph (33), by striking the period at
8 the end and inserting a semicolon; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(34) the term ‘command-level personnel’
11 means law enforcement officers employed by a State,
12 local, or Tribal law enforcement agency whose re-
13 sponsibilities include managing, directing, or over-
14 seeing law enforcement operations within a geo-
15 graphic subunit of the jurisdiction in which such
16 agency has primary responsibility for law enforce-
17 ment activities.”.

18 (b) COPS PROGRAM.—Section 1701 of title I of the
19 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
20 U.S.C. 10381) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(q) TRAINING IN IMPROVING POLICE COMMAND-
23 LEVEL PERSONNEL LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND
24 EFFECTIVENESS.—

25 “(1) TRAINING CURRICULA.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
2 days after the date of enactment of this sub-
3 section, the Attorney General shall develop
4 training curricula or identify effective existing
5 training curricula for command-level personnel
6 relating to—

7 “(i) leadership and strategic thinking;

8 “(ii) critical incident response and
9 management, including understanding,
10 preparing for, and responding to the effect
11 of critical incidents on officers and commu-
12 nities;

13 “(iii) risk management;

14 “(iv) officer wellness;

15 “(v) data analysis and data-driven po-
16 licing tactics;

17 “(vi) evidence-based decision making;

18 and

19 “(vii) building community trust.

20 “(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The training cur-
21 ricula developed or identified under this para-
22 graph shall include—

23 “(i) primarily in-person instruction
24 and peer-to-peer learning;

1 “(ii) a framework for a practical, evi-
2 dence-based problem solving component
3 under which participating command-level
4 personnel—

5 “(I) identify and develop a pro-
6 posed solution to a leadership, oper-
7 ational, or management challenge rel-
8 evant to personnel in the command-
9 level personnel’s employing law en-
10 forcement agency;

11 “(II) receive feedback from cur-
12 riculum instructors and other partici-
13 pating command-level personnel to re-
14 fine the proposed solution accordingly
15 to meet the needs of the law enforce-
16 ment agency and community served;
17 and

18 “(III) present a final,
19 implementable product emphasizing
20 evidence-based strategies to program
21 instructors and the command-level
22 personnel’s district or geographic com-
23 mand; and

24 “(iii) the incorporation of pre-course
25 and post-course assessments to measure

1 knowledge acquisition and leadership com-
2 petencies relevant to the training curricula.

3 “(C) CONSULTATION.—The Attorney Gen-
4 eral shall develop and identify training curricula
5 under this paragraph in consultation with rel-
6 evant law enforcement agencies of States and
7 units of local government, universities with ap-
8 propriate law-enforcement or leadership pro-
9 grams, and any other entities the Attorney
10 General determines appropriate.

11 “(2) CERTIFIED PROGRAMS AND COURSES.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
13 days after the date on which training curricula
14 are developed or identified under paragraph (1),
15 the Attorney General shall establish a process
16 to—

17 “(i) certify training programs and
18 courses offered to command-level personnel
19 which incorporate 1 or more of the train-
20 ing curricula developed or identified under
21 paragraph (1), or equivalents to such
22 training curricula, which may include certi-
23 fying training programs or courses offered
24 on or before the date on which the Attor-
25 ney General establishes the process; and

1 “(ii) terminate the certification of a
2 training program or course that fails to
3 meet the standards developed or identified
4 under paragraph (1).

5 “(B) PARTNERSHIPS WITH EDUCATIONAL
6 INSTITUTIONS.—Not later than 180 days after
7 the date on which training curricula are devel-
8 oped or identified under paragraph (1), the At-
9 torney General shall develop criteria to ensure
10 that entities which offer training programs or
11 courses that are certified under subparagraph
12 (A) collaborate with educational institutions to
13 evaluate and continuously improve the curricula
14 and coursework of those educational institu-
15 tions.

16 “(3) LIST.—Not later than 1 year after the
17 date on which the Attorney General completes the
18 activities required under paragraphs (1) and (2), the
19 Attorney General shall publish a list of law enforce-
20 ment agencies of States and units of local govern-
21 ment employing law enforcement officers who have
22 successfully completed a course using the training
23 curricula developed or identified under paragraph
24 (1), or equivalents to such training curricula, which
25 shall include—

1 “(A) the total number of law enforcement
2 officers that are employed by the law enforce-
3 ment agency; and

4 “(B) the number of law enforcement offi-
5 cers who have completed such a course.”.

6 **SEC. 3. ATTORNEY GENERAL REPORTS.**

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
8 the date of enactment of this Act, and annually
9 thereafter until the date that is 3 years after the
10 date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General
11 shall submit to Congress a report on the activities
12 carried out as a result of the amendments made
13 under section 2.

14 (2) CONTENTS.—Each report under paragraph
15 (1) shall include, at a minimum, information on—

16 (A) steps taken by the Attorney General to
17 develop or identify curricula under section
18 1701(q)(1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and
19 Safe Streets Act of 1968, as added by section
20 2;

21 (B) any assessments conducted or identi-
22 fied by the Attorney General on the effective-
23 ness and utilization of curricula developed or
24 identified under section 1701(q)(1) of the Om-

1 nibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
2 1968, as added by section 2;

3 (C) recommendations for curriculum up-
4 dates and improvements; and

5 (D) barriers to training implementation.

6 **SEC. 4. GAO REPORT.**

7 Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment
8 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
9 shall—

10 (1) conduct a review of the actions taken by the
11 Attorney General pursuant to this Act and the
12 amendments made by this Act; and

13 (2) submit to Congress a report on the review
14 conducted under paragraph (1), which shall include
15 a description of—

16 (A) the process for developing and identi-
17 fying curricula under section 1701(q)(1) of the
18 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
19 1968, as added by section 2, including the ef-
20 fectiveness of the consultation by the Attorney
21 General with the agencies, associations, and or-
22 ganizations identified under that section; and

23 (B) the certification of training programs
24 and courses under section 1701(q)(2) of the
25 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of

1 1968, as added by section 2, including the de-
2 velopment of the process for certification and
3 its implementation.

4 **SEC. 5. STATE CERTIFICATIONS AND TRAINING STAND-**
5 **ARDS.**

6 Nothing in this Act, or an amendment made by this
7 Act, shall be construed to preempt or replace the authority
8 of any State or local government, including any Peace Of-
9 ficer Standards and Training entity or similar certifying
10 body, to set and enforce certification, training, or quali-
11 fication standards for law enforcement officers.

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