

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3920

To strengthen homeland security by expanding Urban Areas Security Initiative grant eligibility criteria to promote cooperation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and to advance election security protections.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Mr. SCOTT of Florida introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To strengthen homeland security by expanding Urban Areas Security Initiative grant eligibility criteria to promote cooperation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and to advance election security protections.

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 TITLES.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Unifying American Se-
5 curity Interests Act” or the “UASI Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Urban Areas Security Initiative pro-
2 vides critical funding to high-risk urban areas to en-
3 hance preparedness against terrorism and other
4 threats under the Homeland Security Grant Pro-
5 gram.

6 (2) Effective border security and immigration
7 enforcement are integral to national homeland secu-
8 rity, requiring collaboration between Federal, State,
9 local, Tribal, and territorial entities.

10 (3) The fiscal year 2025 Homeland Security
11 Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity es-
12 tablished National Priority Areas to address emerg-
13 ing threats, including support for border crisis re-
14 sponse through cooperation with U.S. Immigration
15 and Customs Enforcement.

16 (4) Codifying the requirements referred to in
17 paragraphs (1) through (3) will ensure consistent
18 application and prevent future circumvention
19 through administrative or judicial actions.

20 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBILITY FOR URBAN AREAS SECURITY INITIA-**
21 **TIVE GRANTS.**

22 Section 2008 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002
23 (6 U.S.C. 609) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(h) ELIGIBILITY FOR URBAN AREAS SECURITY INI-
 2 TIATIVE GRANTS.—

3 “(1) NATIONAL PRIORITY AREAS REQUIRE-
 4 MENT.—As a condition of eligibility for a grant
 5 under the Urban Areas Security Initiative, each ap-
 6 plicant (including State administrative agencies and
 7 eligible urban areas) shall demonstrate in its appli-
 8 cation that it will allocate not less than 30 percent
 9 of the total award amount across the following Na-
 10 tional Priority Areas:

11 “(A) Enhancing cybersecurity.

12 “(B) Enhancing the protection of soft tar-
 13 gets and crowded places.

14 “(C) Supporting Homeland Security Task
 15 Forces and Fusion Centers.

16 “(D) Enhancing election security.

17 “(E) Supporting border crisis response and
 18 enforcement.

19 “(2) MINIMUM ALLOCATIONS.—Of the amount
 20 required to be allocated under paragraph (1)—

21 “(A) not less than 3 percent of the total
 22 award shall be dedicated to activities in support
 23 of enhancing election security; and

24 “(B) not less than 10 percent of the total
 25 award shall be dedicated to activities that sup-

1 porting border crisis response and enforcement,
2 which shall include—

3 “(i) participating in the program au-
4 thorized under section 287(g) of the Immi-
5 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
6 1357(g)), including training and author-
7 izing local officers to perform immigration
8 enforcement functions such as identifying
9 and processing removable noncitizens in
10 their custody;

11 “(ii) cooperating with detainers re-
12 ceived from U.S. Immigration and Cus-
13 toms Enforcement and other jurisdictional
14 responsibilities related to immigration en-
15 forcement;

16 “(iii) training for law enforcement
17 personnel in immigration law, civil rights
18 protections, and procedures under the pro-
19 gram referred to in clause (i);

20 “(iv) developing information-sharing
21 platforms or secure networks between local
22 agencies and U.S. Immigration and Cus-
23 toms Enforcement;

1 “(v) procuring technology for screen-
2 ing, detection, and communications to sup-
3 port immigration enforcement;

4 “(vi) participating in joint training ex-
5 ercises with U.S. Immigration and Cus-
6 toms Enforcement to improve coordination;
7 and

8 “(vii) staffing and operational over-
9 time directly tied to activities described in
10 clause (i), such as expanding screening in
11 correctional facilities.

12 “(3) INVESTMENT JUSTIFICATION AND COORDI-
13 NATION.—Each applicant for a grant under the
14 Urban Areas Security Initiative shall submit to the
15 Secretary of Homeland Security a dedicated invest-
16 ment justification for projects that supporting bor-
17 der crisis response and enforcement that details
18 alignment with border security goals. All such
19 projects shall require coordination with U.S. Immi-
20 gration and Customs Enforcement field offices.

21 “(4) COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATIONS.—Each ap-
22 plicant for a grant under the Urban Areas Security
23 Initiative shall certify to the Secretary of Homeland
24 Security that funded activities will comply with all
25 applicable Department of Homeland Security terms,

1 including prohibitions on benefitting or incentivizing
2 illegal immigration.

3 “(5) NONCOMPLIANCE PENALTIES.—Failure of
4 a grantee to meet the minimum allocations required
5 under this subsection may result in the Secretary of
6 Homeland Security—

7 “(A) denying eligibility for a grant under
8 the Urban Areas Security Initiative;

9 “(B) placing a hold on up to 30 percent of
10 the award until such failure is remedied; or

11 “(C) imposing another remedy, including
12 award termination or debarment of the grantee
13 from future grants.

14 “(6) APPLICABILITY.—The requirements under
15 this subsection shall apply to all Urban Areas Secu-
16 rity Initiative grants awarded for fiscal year 2027 or
17 for any fiscal year thereafter.”.

18 **SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

19 Nothing in this Act may be construed to preempt
20 State or local laws, except to the extent necessary to en-
21 sure compliance with the conditions for Federal grant
22 funding established under section 2008(h) of the Home-
23 land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(h)), as added
24 by section 3.

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