

H.R.

To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to require States to join the Police Corps program and amend requirements for entry and graduation from the program

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 2024

Mr. Ibney (for himself), introduced the following bill; which was subsequently referred to the House of Representatives:

AN ACT

To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to require States to join the Police Corps program and amend requirements for entry and graduation from the program

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE, ETC.

- (a) This Act may be cited as the "Police Corps Amendment Act of 2024".
- (b) This Act shall come into effect thirty days upon its passing into law.
- (c) If any provision of this Act is ruled unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable, the rest of the Act shall pass into law.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this legislation—

- (i) Unless specified otherwise, "the Act" refers to the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ([34 USC § 12101 et seq.](#)).
- (ii) "Legitimate high school" refers to any secondary school, public or private, all defined under [34 CFR 77.1\(c\)](#).
- (iii) "Physical abuse" refers to any intentional act causing injury or trauma to another person or animal by way of bodily contact.
- (iv) "Verbal abuse" refers to the use of words to cause harm to the person being spoken to.
- (v) "Sexual abuse" refers to anal intercourse or penetration, oral copulation or penetration, or vaginal intercourse or penetration without consent from the person being penetrated.
- (vi) "Racially or ethnically-charged language" refers to the use of diction or tone that purposefully and either overtly or covertly harms the sentimentalities of a race or ethnicity, typically involving the use of slurs.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO THE POLICE CORPS PROGRAM

Section 200107(b)(1) ([34 USC § 12556\(b\)\(1\)](#)) shall be amended by:

(i) Amending subparagraph (G) to read:

"(G) contract, with the consent of the participant's parent or guardian if the participant is a minor, to serve for 4 years as an officer in the State police or in a local police department, if an appointment is offered;"

(ii) Inserting subparagraph (I) after subparagraph (H) to read:

"(I) not have a history of violence or violent crime, nor a criminal record of violence or violent crime;"

(iii) Inserting subparagraph (J) to read:

"(J) not have a history of racial or ethnic bias, nor a history of committing or conspiring to commit hate crimes;"

(iv) Inserting subparagraph (K) to read:

"(K) not have conspired to overthrow the government of the United States nor have participated in or have incited civil unrest within the United States; and"

- (v) Inserting subparagraph (L) to read:

"(L) have attained at least a graduating diploma from a legitimate high school or a final grade on the General Education Development examinations of 85 or higher."

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO POLICE CORPS TRAINING PROCEDURES

- (a) Section 200108(e) of the Act ([34 USC § 12557\(e\)](#)) shall be amended by:

- (i) Inserting a "(1)" before "A participant shall be evaluated during training for mental, physical, and emotional fitness, and shall be required to meet performance standards prescribed by the Director at the conclusion of each training session in order to remain in the Police Corps program."
- (ii) Inserting paragraph (2) after paragraph (1) to read:

"(2) Any participant who fails any one of the physical and emotional fitness or performance standards evaluations shall be reviewed by the Police Corps program for the ability of the participant to continue on in the program."

(b) Section 200108(f) shall be redesignated as section 200108(g).

(c) Subsection (f) shall be inserted to read:

"(f) BEHAVIOR OF PARTICIPANTS AND PENALTIES OF VIOLATING RULES.—

"(1) Participants shall not be allowed to commit any acts of physical or verbal abuse. The penalty for committing any acts of physical or verbal abuse shall be a review into the conduct of the guilty participants and, if necessary, expulsion from the program.

"(2) Participants shall not be allowed to commit any acts of sexual abuse, violence, or harassment toward any member of the Police Corps program. The penalty for committing any acts of sexual abuse, violence, or harassment shall be immediate expulsion, the barring of the guilty participants from ever participating in the Police Corps program and from ever becoming law enforcement personnel—this includes local, State, and Federal law enforcement—and legal action against the guilty participants.

"(3) Participants shall not be allowed to use racially or ethnically-charged language against a fellow participant, nor shall they be allowed to commit crimes of racial or ethnic hatred against a

fellow participant. The penalty for using racially or ethnically-charged language against a fellow participant or for committing crimes of racial or ethnic hatred against a fellow participant shall be immediate expulsion from the program, the barring of guilty participants from ever participating in the Police Corps program again, the barring of guilty participants from ever becoming law enforcement personnel—this includes local, State, and Federal law enforcement—and legal action against the guilty participants."

SEC. 5. REQUIREMENT OF STATES TO JOIN THE POLICE CORPS PROGRAM

(a) Section 200105 of the Act ([34 USC § 12554](#)) shall be amended by:

- (i) Redesignating subsection (a) as subsection (b) and subsection (b) as subsection (c);
- (ii) Inserting subsection (a) to read:

"(a) REQUIRING STATES TO JOIN.—

"(1) All of the States shall be required to join and enroll in the Police Corps program under this subtitle.

"(2) For the first fiscal year after the fiscal year 2021 in which a State fails to join the Police Corps program under this subtitle, the State shall be subject to a 20 percent reduction in funds that would otherwise be allocated for retention by the State for that fiscal year.

"(3) For subsequent fiscal years after the fiscal year 2021 in which a State fails to join the Police Corps program under this subtitle, the State shall be subject to a constant 5 percent reduction in funds that would otherwise be allocated for retention by the State, not to exceed 35 percent."

- (iii) Amending subsection (b) by striking "desires to participate" and substituting "participates".