

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

**H. R. 1727**

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**AMENDMENT**

***In the Senate of the United States,***

*November 22, 1993.*

*Resolved,* That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 1727) entitled “An Act to establish a program of grants to States for arson research, prevention, and control, and for other purposes”, do pass with the following

**AMENDMENT:**

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Arson Prevention Act*  
3 *of 1993”.*

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 *Congress finds that—*

6 *(1) arson is a serious and costly problem, and is*  
7 *responsible for approximately 25 percent of all fires*  
8 *in the United States;*

9 *(2) arson is a leading cause of fire deaths, ac-*  
10 *counting for approximately 700 deaths annually in*

1 *the United States, and is the leading cause of prop-*  
2 *erty damage due to fire in the United States;*

3 *(3) estimates of arson property losses are in the*  
4 *range of \$2,000,000,000 annually, or approximately 1*  
5 *of every 4 dollars lost to fire;*

6 *(4) the incidence of arson in the United States*  
7 *is seriously underreported, in part because of the lack*  
8 *of adequate participation by local jurisdictions in the*  
9 *National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)*  
10 *and the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program;*

11 *(5) there is a need for expanded training pro-*  
12 *grams for arson investigators;*

13 *(6) there is a need for improved programs de-*  
14 *signed to enable volunteer firefighters to detect arson*  
15 *crimes and to preserve evidence vital to the investiga-*  
16 *tion and prosecution of arson cases;*

17 *(7) according to the National Fire Protection As-*  
18 *sociation, of all the suspicious and incendiary fires*  
19 *estimated to occur, only 1/3 are confirmed as arson;*  
20 *and*

21 *(8) improved training of arson investigators will*  
22 *increase the ability of fire departments to identify*  
23 *suspicious and incendiary fires, and will result in in-*  
24 *creased and more effective prosecution of arson*  
25 *offenses.*

1 **SEC. 3. ARSON PREVENTION GRANTS.**

2 *The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974*  
3 *is amended by inserting after section 24 (15 U.S.C. 2220)*  
4 *the following new section:*

5 **“SEC. 25. ARSON PREVENTION GRANTS.**

6 *“(a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:*

7 *“(1) ARSON.—The term ‘arson’ includes all in-*  
8 *cendiary and suspicious fires.*

9 *“(2) OFFICE.—The term ‘Office’ means the Office*  
10 *of Fire Prevention and Arson Control of the United*  
11 *States Fire Administration.*

12 *“(b) GRANTS.—The Administrator, acting through the*  
13 *Office, shall carry out a demonstration program under*  
14 *which not more than 10 grant awards shall be made to*  
15 *States, or consortia of States, for programs relating to arson*  
16 *research, prevention, and control.*

17 *“(c) GOALS.—In carrying out this section, the Admin-*  
18 *istrator shall award 2-year grants on a competitive, merit*  
19 *basis to States, or consortia of States, for projects that pro-*  
20 *mote one or more of the following goals:*

21 *“(1) To improve the training by States leading*  
22 *to professional certification of arson investigators, in*  
23 *accordance with nationally recognized certification*  
24 *standards.*

25 *“(2) To provide resources for the formation of*  
26 *arson task forces or interagency organizational ar-*

1 *rangements involving police and fire departments and*  
2 *other relevant local agencies, such as a State arson*  
3 *bureau and the office of a fire marshal of a State.*

4 “(3) *To combat fraud as a cause of arson and*  
5 *to advance research at the State and local levels on*  
6 *the significance and prevention of fraud as a motive*  
7 *for setting fires.*

8 “(4) *To provide for the management of arson*  
9 *squads, including—*

10 “(A) *training courses for fire departments*  
11 *in arson case management, including standard-*  
12 *ization of investigative techniques and reporting*  
13 *methodology;*

14 “(B) *the preparation of arson unit manage-*  
15 *ment guides; and*

16 “(C) *the development and dissemination of*  
17 *new public education materials relating to the*  
18 *arson problem.*

19 “(5) *To combat civil unrest as a cause of arson*  
20 *and to advance research at the State and local levels*  
21 *on the prevention and control of arson linked to*  
22 *urban disorders.*

23 “(6) *To combat juvenile arson, such as juvenile*  
24 *fire-setter counseling programs and similar interven-*

1        *tion programs, and to advance research at the State*  
2        *and local levels on the prevention of juvenile arson.*

3            *“(7) To combat drug-related arson and to ad-*  
4        *vance research at the State and local levels on the*  
5        *causes and prevention of drug-related arson.*

6            *“(8) To combat domestic violence as a cause of*  
7        *arson and to advance research at the State and local*  
8        *levels on the prevention of arson arising from domes-*  
9        *tic violence.*

10           *“(9) To combat arson in rural areas and to im-*  
11        *prove the capability of firefighters to identify and*  
12        *prevent arson initiated fires in rural areas and pub-*  
13        *lic forests.*

14           *“(10) To improve the capability of firefighters to*  
15        *identify and combat arson through expanded training*  
16        *programs, including—*

17                    *“(A) training courses at the State fire acad-*  
18        *emies; and*

19                    *“(B) innovative courses developed with the*  
20        *Academy and made available to volunteer fire-*  
21        *fighters through regional delivery methods, in-*  
22        *cluding teleconferencing and satellite delivered*  
23        *television programs.*

24           *“(d) STRUCTURING OF APPLICATIONS.—The Adminis-*  
25        *trator shall assist grant applicants in structuring their ap-*

1 *plications so as to ensure that at least one grant is awarded*  
2 *for each goal described in subsection (c).*

3 *“(e) STATE QUALIFICATION CRITERIA.—In order to*  
4 *qualify for a grant under this section, a State, or consor-*  
5 *tium of States, shall provide assurances adequate to the Ad-*  
6 *ministrator that the State or consortium—*

7 *“(1) will obtain at least 25 percent of the cost of*  
8 *programs funded by the grant, in cash or in kind,*  
9 *from non-Federal sources;*

10 *“(2) will not as a result of receiving the grant*  
11 *decrease the prior level of spending of funds of the*  
12 *State or consortium from non-Federal sources for*  
13 *arson research, prevention, and control programs;*

14 *“(3) will use no more than 10 percent of funds*  
15 *provided under the grant for administrative costs of*  
16 *the programs; and*

17 *“(4) is making efforts to ensure that all local ju-*  
18 *risdictions will provide arson data to the National*  
19 *Fire Incident Reporting System or the Uniform*  
20 *Crime Reporting program.*

21 *“(f) EXTENSION.—A grant awarded under this section*  
22 *may be extended for one or more additional periods, at the*  
23 *discretion of the Administrator, subject to the availability*  
24 *of appropriations.*

1       “(g) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—*The Administrator*  
2 *shall provide technical assistance to States in carrying out*  
3 *programs funded by grants under this section.*

4       “(h) *CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION.*—*In carrying*  
5 *out this section, the Administrator shall consult and cooper-*  
6 *ate with other Federal agencies to enhance program effec-*  
7 *tiveness and avoid duplication of effort, including the con-*  
8 *duct of regular meetings initiated by the Administrator*  
9 *with representatives of other Federal agencies concerned*  
10 *with arson and concerned with efforts to develop a more*  
11 *comprehensive profile of the magnitude of the national*  
12 *arson problem.*

13       “(i) *ASSESSMENT.*—*Not later than 18 months after the*  
14 *date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall*  
15 *submit a report to Congress that—*

16               “(1) *identifies grants made;*

17               “(2) *specifies the identity of grantees;*

18               “(3) *states the goals of each grant; and*

19               “(4) *contains a preliminary assessment of the ef-*  
20 *fectiveness of the grant program under this section.*

21       “(j) *REGULATIONS.*—*Not later than 90 days after the*  
22 *date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall*  
23 *issue regulations to implement this section, including proce-*  
24 *dures for grant applications.*

1       “(k) *ADMINISTRATION.*—*The Administrator shall di-*  
2 *rectly administer the grant program required by this sec-*  
3 *tion, and shall not enter into any contract under which the*  
4 *grant program or any portion of the program will be ad-*  
5 *ministered by another party.*”

6       **SEC. 4. VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER TRAINING.**

7       *Section 24(a)(2) of the Federal Fire Prevention and*  
8 *Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2220(a)(2)) is amended by*  
9 *inserting before the semicolon the following: “, with particu-*  
10 *lar emphasis on the needs of volunteer firefighters for im-*  
11 *proved and more widely available arson training courses”.*

12       **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

13       *Section 17 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control*  
14 *Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2216) is amended by adding at the*  
15 *end the following new subsection:*

16       “(h) *In addition to any other amounts that are author-*  
17 *ized to be appropriated to carry out this Act, there are au-*  
18 *thorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act—*

19               “(1) *\$500,000 for fiscal year 1994 for basic re-*  
20 *search on the development of an advanced course on*  
21 *arson prevention;*

22               “(2) *\$2,000,000 for fiscal year 1995 for the ex-*  
23 *pansion of arson investigator training programs at*  
24 *the Academy under section 24 and at the Federal*

1     *Law Enforcement Training Center, or through re-*  
2     *gional delivery sites;*

3             *“(3) \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1994 and*  
4     *1995 for carrying out section 25, except for salaries*  
5     *and expenses for carrying out section 25; and*

6             *“(4) \$250,000 for each of the fiscal years 1994*  
7     *and 1995 for salaries and expenses for carrying out*  
8     *section 25.”.*

Attest:

*Secretary.*