

Union Calendar No. 246

103D CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4034

[Report No. 103-444]

A BILL

To amend the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 to authorize grants for the expansion of recreation opportunities for at risk youth in urban areas with a high prevalence of crime, and for other purposes.

MARCH 21, 1994

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee on the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 1994

Mr. MILLER of California (for himself, Mr. VENTO, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. DE LUGO, Mr. LEHMAN, Mr. FALCONER, Ms. SHEPHERD, Ms. MCKINNEY, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

MARCH 21, 1994

Additional sponsors: Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. DEAL, Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ, Mr. DOOLEY, Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin, Mr. DEUTSCH, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. MINK, Mr. COYNE, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. TEJEDA, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. EDWARDS of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. FARR

MARCH 21, 1994

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 15, 1994]

A BILL

To amend the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 to authorize grants for the expansion of recreation opportunities for at risk youth in urban areas with a high prevalence of crime, 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 “Urban Recreation and*
5 *At-Risk Youth Act of 1994”.*

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 *Section 1002 of the Urban Park and Recreation Recov-*
8 *ery Act of 1978 is amended by striking “and” at the end*
9 *of subsection (d), by striking the period at the end of sub-*
10 *section (e) and inserting “;” and by adding the following*
11 *at the end thereof:*

12 *“(f) the quality of life in urban areas has suf-*
13 *fered because of decline in the availability of park*
14 *and recreation and systems, including land, facilities,*
15 *and services;*

16 *“(g) the deterioration of urban park and recre-*
17 *ation facilities is due in part to the underfunding of*
18 *Federal grant programs intended to assist in the revi-*
19 *talization of urban recreation facilities and allow us*
20 *to take back our parks from crime, vandalism, and*
21 *dilapidation;*

1 “(h) the urban neighborhoods eligible for assist-
2 ance under this title have deteriorated, in part, due
3 to the rapid increase in violent crime among youth;

4 “(i) accessible, well-maintained recreational fa-
5 cilities and services have been shown to significantly
6 decrease the incidence of violent crime among youth
7 and can be an effective tool in efforts to prevent
8 crime, increase public safety and improve the quality
9 of life of urban residents; and

10 “(j) urban sport and recreation programs teach
11 important values and life skills including teamwork,
12 individual responsibility, respect, leadership, and self-
13 esteem which help prevent young people from engag-
14 ing in criminal behavior.”.

15 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE OF ASSISTANCE.**

16 Section 1003 of the Urban Park and Recreation Recov-
17 ery Act of 1978 is amended by adding the following at the
18 end thereof: “It is further the purpose of this title to improve
19 recreation facilities and expand recreation services in
20 urban areas with a high incidence of crime and to help
21 deter crime through the expansion of recreation opportuni-
22 ties for at-risk youth. It is the further purpose of this section
23 to increase the security of urban parks and to promote col-
24 laboration between local agencies involved in parks and

1 *recreation, law enforcement, youth social services, and the*
2 *juvenile justice system.”.*

3 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

4 *Section 1004 of the Urban Park and Recreation Recov-*
5 *ery Act of 1978 is amended by inserting the following new*
6 *subsection after subsection (c) and by redesignating sub-*
7 *sections (d) through (j) as (e) through (k) respectively:*

8 “(d) ‘at-risk youth recreation grants’ means—

9 “(1) rehabilitation grants,

10 “(2) innovation grants, or

11 “(3) matching grants for continuing pro-
12 *gram support for programs of demonstrated*
13 *value or success in providing constructive alter-*
14 *natives to youth at risk for engaging in criminal*
15 *behavior, including grants for operating, or co-*
16 *ordinating recreation programs and services;*

17 *in neighborhoods and communities with a high preva-*
18 *lence of crime, particularly violent crime or crime*
19 *committed by youthful offenders; in addition to the*
20 *purposes specified in subsection (b), rehabilitation*
21 *grants referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection*
22 *may be used for the provision of lighting, emergency*
23 *phones or other capital improvements which will im-*
24 *prove the security of urban parks;”.*

1 **SEC. 5. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION.**

2 *Section 1005(c) of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-*
3 *covery Act of 1978 is amended by striking “and” at the*
4 *end of paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end of*
5 *paragraph (7) and inserting “; and” and by adding the*
6 *following at the end thereof:*

7 *“(8) in the case of at-risk youth recreation*
8 *grants, the Secretary shall give a priority to each of*
9 *the following criteria:*

10 *“(A) Programs which are targeted to youth*
11 *who are at the greatest risk of becoming involved*
12 *in violence and crime.*

13 *“(B) Programs which teach important val-*
14 *ues and life skills, including teamwork, respect,*
15 *leadership, and self-esteem.*

16 *“(C) Programs which offer tutoring, reme-*
17 *dial education, mentoring, and counseling in ad-*
18 *dition to recreation opportunities;*

19 *“(D) Programs which offer services during*
20 *late night or other nonschool hours.*

21 *“(E) Programs which demonstrate collabo-*
22 *ration between local park and recreation, juve-*
23 *nile justice, law enforcement, and youth social*
24 *service agencies and nongovernmental entities,*
25 *including the private sector and community and*
26 *nonprofit organizations.*

1 “(F) Programs which leverage public or pri-
2 vate recreation investments in the form of serv-
3 ices, materials, or cash.

4 “(G) Programs which show the greatest po-
5 tential of being continued with non-Federal
6 funds or which can serve as models for other
7 communities.”.

8 **SEC. 6. PARK AND RECREATION ACTION RECOVERY PRO-**
9 **GRAMS.**

10 Section 1007(b) of the Urban Park and Recreation Re-
11 covery Act of 1978 is amended by adding the following at
12 the end thereof: “In order to be eligible to receive ‘at-risk
13 youth recreation grants’ a local government shall amend its
14 5-year action program to incorporate the goal of reducing
15 crime and juvenile delinquency and to provide a description
16 of the implementation strategies to achieve this goal. The
17 plan shall also address how the local government is coordi-
18 nating its recreation programs with crime prevention ef-
19 forts of law enforcement, juvenile corrections, and youth so-
20 cial service agencies.”.

21 **SEC. 7. MISCELLANEOUS AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

22 (a) PROGRAM SUPPORT.—Section 1013 of the Urban
23 Park and Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 is amended by
24 inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” after “1013.” and by add-
25 ing the following new subsection at the end thereof:

1 “(b) *PROGRAM SUPPORT.*—Not more than 25 percent
2 of the amounts made available under this title to any local
3 government may be used for program support.”.

4 (b) *EXTENSION.*—Section 1003 of the Urban Park and
5 Recreation Recovery Act of 1978 is amended by striking
6 “for a period of five years” and by striking “short-term”.