

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 155

To establish licensing standards for law enforcement, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Mr. RUSH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish licensing standards for law enforcement, 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 “Providing Officer Li-
5 censing to Increase Confidence for Everyone Act” or the
6 “POLICE Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. LAW ENFORCEMENT LICENSING STANDARDS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in
10 consultation with appropriate nongovernmental associa-
11 tions (such as the International Association of Directors

1 of Law Enforcement Standards and Training and the
2 Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agen-
3 cies), shall issue licensing standards for law enforcement
4 officers based on best practices for law enforcement. Such
5 licensing standards shall be reviewed and, if necessary,
6 modified every 5 years.

7 (b) FEDERAL LICENSING.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, each Federal law
10 enforcement officer shall be licensed in accordance
11 with the licensing standards issued pursuant to sub-
12 section (a).

13 (2) CONTINUING EDUCATION.—Each Federal
14 law enforcement officer who has received a license
15 under paragraph (1) shall take annual continuing
16 education classes on such topics as the Attorney
17 General may require to maintain the license for a
18 year.

19 (3) FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER DE-
20 FINED.—In this subsection, the term “Federal law
21 enforcement officer” has the meaning given the term
22 in section 115 of title 18, United States Code.

23 (c) STATE LICENSING.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
25 the date of enactment of this Act, a State shall—

1 (A) have in effect a licensing system under
2 which each State and local law enforcement of-
3 ficer shall be licensed in accordance with the li-
4 censing standards issued pursuant to subsection
5 (a); and

6 (B) have in effect a continuing education
7 program that is substantially similar to the pro-
8 gram for Federal law enforcement officers
9 under subsection (b)(2).

10 (2) BYRNE.—If a State fails to comply with the
11 requirement under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year,
12 the State shall be subject to a 50 percent reduction
13 of the amount that would otherwise be awarded in
14 the following fiscal year to that State under subpart
15 1 of part E of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control
16 and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10151 et
17 seq.).

18 (3) REALLOCATION.—Amounts not allocated to
19 a State for failure to comply with this subsection
20 shall be reallocated to States that have complied in
21 accordance with subpart 1 of part E of title I of the
22 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of
23 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10151 et seq.).

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