

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2992

AN ACT

To direct the Attorney General to develop crisis intervention training tools for use by first responders related to interacting with persons who have a traumatic brain injury, another form of acquired brain injury, or post-traumatic stress disorder, 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 “Traumatic Brain In-

5 jury and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Law Enforce-

6 ment Training Act” or the “TBI and PTSD Law Enforce-

7 ment Training Act”.

8 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

9 Congress finds the following:

10 (1) According to the Centers for Disease Con-

11 trol and Prevention, there were approximately 2.9

12 million traumatic brain injury-related emergency de-

13 partment visits, hospitalizations, and deaths in the

14 United States in 2014.

15 (2) Effects of traumatic brain injury (TBI) can

16 be short-term or long-term, and include impaired

17 thinking or memory, movement, vision or hearing, or

18 emotional functioning, such as personality changes

19 or depression.

20 (3) Currently, between 3.2 million and 5.3 mil-

21 lion persons are living with a TBI-related disability

22 in the United States.

23 (4) About 7 or 8 percent of Americans will ex-

24 perience post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) at

1 some point in their lives, and about 8 million adults
2 have PTSD during the course of a given year.

3 (5) TBI and PTSD have been recognized as the
4 signature injuries of the Wars in Iraq and Afghani-
5 stan.

6 (6) According to the Department of Defense,
7 383,000 men and women deployed to Iraq and Af-
8 ghanistan sustained a brain injury while in the line
9 of duty between 2000 and 2018.

10 (7) Approximately 13.5 percent of Operations
11 Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom veterans
12 screen positive for PTSD, according to the Depart-
13 ment of Veteran Affairs.

14 (8) About 12 percent of Gulf War Veterans
15 have PTSD in a given year while about 30 percent
16 of Vietnam Veterans have had PTSD in their life-
17 time.

18 (9) Physical signs of TBI can include motor im-
19 pairment, dizziness or poor balance, slurred speech,
20 impaired depth perception, or impaired verbal mem-
21 ory, while physical signs of PTSD can include agita-
22 tion, irritability, hostility, hypervigilance, self-de-
23 structive behavior, fear, severe anxiety, or mistrust.

24 (10) Physical signs of TBI and PTSD often
25 overlap with physical signs of alcohol or drug im-

1 pairment, which complicate a first responder’s abil-
2 ity to quickly and effectively identify an individual’s
3 condition.

4 **SEC. 3. CREATION OF A TBI AND PTSD TRAINING FOR**
5 **FIRST RESPONDERS.**

6 Part HH of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and
7 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10651 et seq.) is
8 amended—

9 (1) in section 2991—

10 (A) in subsection (h)(1)(A), by inserting
11 before the period at the end the following: “, in-
12 cluding the training developed under section
13 2993”; and

14 (B) in subsection (o), by amending para-
15 graph (1) to read as follows:

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
17 appropriated to the Department of Justice to carry
18 out this section \$54,000,000 for each of fiscal years
19 2023 through 2027.”; and

20 (2) by inserting after section 2992 the following
21 new section:

22 **“SEC. 2993. CREATION OF A TBI AND PTSD TRAINING FOR**
23 **FIRST RESPONDERS.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
25 date of the enactment of this section, the Attorney Gen-

1 eral, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Justice
2 Assistance, in consultation with the Director of the Cen-
3 ters for Disease Control and Prevention and the Assistant
4 Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, shall so-
5 licit best practices regarding techniques to interact with
6 persons who have a traumatic brain injury, an acquired
7 brain injury, or post-traumatic stress disorder from first
8 responder, brain injury, veteran, and mental health orga-
9 nizations, health care and mental health providers, hos-
10 pital emergency departments, and other relevant stake-
11 holders, and shall develop crisis intervention training tools
12 for use by first responders (as such term is defined in sec-
13 tion 3025) that provide—

14 “(1) information on the conditions and symp-
15 toms of a traumatic brain injury, an acquired brain
16 injury, and post-traumatic stress disorder;

17 “(2) techniques to interact with persons who
18 have a traumatic brain injury, an acquired brain in-
19 jury, or post-traumatic stress disorder; and

20 “(3) information on how to recognize persons
21 who have a traumatic brain injury, an acquired
22 brain injury, or post-traumatic stress disorder.

23 “(b) USE OF TRAINING TOOLS AT LAW ENFORCE-
24 MENT MENTAL HEALTH LEARNING SITES.—The Attor-
25 ney General shall ensure that not less than one Law En-

1 enforcement Mental Health Learning Site designated by the
2 Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance uses the
3 training tools developed under subsection (a).

4 “(c) POLICE MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION
5 TOOLKIT.—The Attorney General shall make the training
6 tools developed under subsection (a) available as part of
7 the Police-Mental Health Collaboration Toolkit provided
8 by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.”.

9 **SEC. 4. STUDY ON FIRST RESPONDERS WITH TBI.**

10 Not later than 24 months after the date of the enact-
11 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human
12 Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for
13 Disease Control and Prevention and the Director of the
14 National Institutes of Health and in consultation with the
15 Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Af-
16 fairs, shall conduct a study and submit to the Committee
17 on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives
18 and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pen-
19 sions of the Senate a report on the prevalence and inci-
20 dence of concussion among first responders (as such term
21 is defined in section 3025 of the Omnibus Crime Control
22 and Safe Street Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10705)). The re-
23 port shall include data on the incidence of concussion
24 among first responders and recommendations for re-

1 sources for first responders who have experienced trau-
2 matic brain injury.

Passed the House of Representatives May 18, 2022.

Attest:

Clerk.

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