

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2217

To offset the economic burden on border sheriffs from the lack of southern border security, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 16, 2011

Mr. CARTER (for himself and Mr. GOHMERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To offset the economic burden on border sheriffs from the lack of southern border security, 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 “Southern Border Sher-
5 iffs Community Impact Aid Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The international border of the United
2 States constitutes Federal infrastructure that has a
3 substantial economic impact on adjacent counties.

4 (2) The high level of documented illegal activity
5 on the United States southern border has placed a
6 unique economic burden on border sheriffs' depart-
7 ments.

8 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
9 gress that the Federal Government should offset the addi-
10 tional law enforcement costs on these counties in a similar
11 manner to the Community Impact Aid program for local
12 schools that incur additional costs from Federal infra-
13 structure.

14 **SEC. 3. COMMUNITY IMPACT AID GRANTS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
16 rity shall make grants to sheriffs' departments along the
17 southern border of the United States for the purpose of
18 hiring additional deputies, including for salaries, benefits,
19 training, uniforms, patrol vehicles, and arms.

20 (b) GRANT CALCULATION FORMULA.—Except as
21 provided in subsection (c), a grant made pursuant to sub-
22 section (a) shall be in an amount equal to 30 percent of
23 an eligible sheriff's department's fiscal year 2010 budget
24 for patrol deputies.

1 (c) MINIMUM BENEFIT.—Notwithstanding the cal-
2 culation provided for in subsection (b), a grant made pur-
3 suant to subsection (a) to an eligible sheriff’s department
4 shall be in an amount that allows for the hiring of at least
5 one additional deputy.

6 (d) AVAILABILITY.—Grants made pursuant to sub-
7 section (a) are authorized to remain available until ex-
8 pended.

9 (e) ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING.—To be eligible to re-
10 ceive a grant under this section, a sheriff’s department
11 shall submit to the Secretary of Homeland Security an ap-
12 plication at such time, in such manner, and containing
13 such information as the Secretary may require.

14 (f) ELIGIBLE SHERIFFS’ DEPARTMENTS.—Sheriffs’
15 departments in the following counties are eligible to re-
16 ceive grants under this section:

17 (1) In Texas, the following counties: El Paso,
18 Hudspeth, Culberson, Jeff Davis, Presidio, Brew-
19 ster, Terrell, Val Verde, Kinney, Maverick, Dimmit,
20 Webb, Zapata, Starr, Hidalgo, Cameron, Willacy,
21 Jim Hogg, Zavala, and Pecos Counties.

22 (2) In Arizona, the following counties: Yuma,
23 Pima, Santa Cruz, and Cochise Counties.

1 (3) In New Mexico, the following counties:
2 Dona Ana, Luna, Grant, Otero, and Hidalgo Coun-
3 ties.

4 (4) In California, the following counties: San
5 Diego and Imperial Counties.

6 (g) CUT AS YOU GO.—To carry out this section, the
7 Secretary of Homeland Security shall reprogram funds
8 that would otherwise be obligated and expended under the
9 account heading “Departmental Management and Oper-
10 ations”.

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