

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5885

To establish a grant program to facilitate the veterinary care of former law enforcement canines, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 2023

Mr. FEENSTRA introduced the following bill

OCTOBER 25, 2023

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish a grant program to facilitate the veterinary care of former law enforcement canines, 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 “Honoring Police Offi-
5 cer and K9 Service Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM TO FACILITATE VETERINARY**
2 **CARE FOR FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT CA-**
3 **NINES.**

4 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 90 days after
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney Gen-
6 eral shall establish a grant program to facilitate the care
7 of former law enforcement canines (in this section referred
8 to as the “program”).

9 (b) **GRANT AUTHORITY AND ELIGIBLE RECIPI-**
10 **ENTS.**—In carrying out the program, the Attorney Gen-
11 eral may award a grant on a competitive basis to any enti-
12 ty that qualifies as a nonprofit organization under section
13 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that
14 the Attorney General determines has—

15 (1) a demonstrated history of successfully as-
16 sisting the owners of former law enforcement ca-
17 nines with costs associated with veterinary care,
18 medication and antibiotics, or other medical ex-
19 penses for the canine; and

20 (2) the capacity to record and provide a de-
21 tailed accounting of the purposes for which grant
22 amounts are expended.

23 (c) **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.**—A recipient of a grant
24 under the program may only use grant funds to cover the
25 costs associated with veterinary care, medication and anti-

1 biotics, or other medical expenses determined necessary by
2 a veterinarian for the former law enforcement canine.

3 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
4 the Program, an entity shall submit to the Secretary an
5 application at such time, in such form, and containing
6 such information as the Attorney General determines ap-
7 propriate.

8 (e) REPORTS.—

9 (1) REPORTS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—As a
10 condition of receiving a grant under the program, a
11 prospective recipient shall agree to submit to the At-
12 torney General, on an annual basis for the duration
13 of the project to be carried out using grant funds a
14 report containing, with respect to the year covered
15 by the report—

16 (A) a detailed accounting of how grant
17 funds were used; and

18 (B) a proposal for how activities carried
19 out under the project may be improved in the
20 future.

21 (2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Upon receiv-
22 ing a report under paragraph (1), the Attorney Gen-
23 eral shall submit a copy of the report to Congress.

1 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
3 out this section \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2024.

4 (g) FORMER LAW ENFORCEMENT CANINE DE-
5 FINED.—In this section, the term “former law enforce-
6 ment canine” means a canine that has been used by a
7 Federal, State, or local agency in the performance of law
8 enforcement duties and that has been determined by such
9 agency to be no longer needed for official purposes.

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