

Calendar No. 193118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 1886****[Report No. 118–90]**

To establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Non-profit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 8, 2023

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

AUGUST 22, 2023

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of July 27, 2023, by Mr. PETERS, with an amendment

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

A BILL

To establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Pray Safe Act of
3 2023”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **AGENCY.**—The term “Agency” means the
7 Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of
8 the Department.

9 (2) **CLEARINGHOUSE.**—The term “Clearing-
10 house” means the Federal Clearinghouse on Safety
11 and Security Best Practices for Nonprofit Organiza-
12 tions, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of
13 Worship established under section 3(a).

14 (3) **DEPARTMENT.**—The term “Department”
15 means the Department of Homeland Security.

16 (4) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means
17 the Director of the Agency.

18 (5) **FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION.**—The term
19 “faith-based organization” means a group, center, or
20 nongovernmental organization with a religious, ideo-
21 logical, or spiritual motivation, character, affiliation,
22 or purpose that meets the definition of nonprofit or-
23 ganization.

24 (6) **HOUSE OF WORSHIP.**—The term “house of
25 worship” means a place or building, including a syn-
26 agogue, mosque, temple, and church, in which

1 congregants practice their religious or spiritual be-
 2 liefs.

3 (7) **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.**—The term
 4 “nonprofit organization” means an organization—

5 (A) of the type described in subsection
 6 (e)(3) of section 501 of the Internal Revenue
 7 Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under
 8 subsection (a) of such section; and

9 (B) determined to be at risk of a terrorist
 10 attack or other threat by the Secretary.

11 (8) **SAFETY AND SECURITY.**—The term “safety
 12 and security” means prevention of, protection
 13 against, or recovery from threats and incidents, in-
 14 cluding natural disasters, manmade disasters, or ter-
 15 rorist attacks.

16 (9) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
 17 the Secretary of Homeland Security.

18 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON SAFETY AND SECU-**
 19 **RITY BEST PRACTICES FOR NONPROFIT OR-**
 20 **GANIZATIONS, FAITH-BASED ORGANIZA-**
 21 **TIONS, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP (PRAY**
 22 **SAFE).**

23 (a) **FEDERAL CLEARINGHOUSE.**—

24 (1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270
2 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
3 the Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney
4 General, the Executive Director of the White
5 House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood
6 Partnerships, and the head of any other agency
7 the Secretary determines appropriate, shall es-
8 tablish within the Department a Federal Clear-
9 inghouse on Safety and Security Best Practices
10 for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Orga-
11 nizations, and Houses of Worship.

12 (B) PURPOSE.—The Clearinghouse shall
13 be the primary resource of the Federal Govern-
14 ment to—

15 (i) educate and publish online best
16 practices and recommendations for safety
17 and security for nonprofit organizations
18 and houses of worship; and

19 (ii) provide information relating to
20 Federal grant programs available to non-
21 profit organizations and houses of worship.

22 (C) PERSONNEL.—

23 (i) ASSIGNMENTS.—The Clearing-
24 house shall be assigned such personnel and

1 resources as the Secretary considers appro-
2 priate to carry out this subsection.

3 (ii) ~~DETAILEES.~~—The Secretary may
4 coordinate detailees on a reimbursable or a
5 nonreimbursable basis as required for the
6 Clearinghouse.

7 (iii) ~~DESIGNATED POINT OF CON-~~
8 ~~TACT.~~—

9 (I) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—There shall be
10 not fewer than 1 employee assigned or
11 detailed to the Clearinghouse who
12 shall be the designated point of con-
13 tact to provide information and assist-
14 ance to nonprofit organizations and
15 houses of worship, including assist-
16 ance relating to the grant program es-
17 tablished under subsection (e).

18 (II) ~~CONTACT INFORMATION.~~—

19 The contact information of the des-
20 ignated point of contact under sub-
21 clause (I) shall be made available on
22 the website of the Clearinghouse.

23 (iv) ~~QUALIFICATION.~~—To the max-
24 imum extent possible, any personnel as-
25 signed or detailed to the Clearinghouse

1 under this subparagraph should be familiar
 2 with nonprofit organizations (including
 3 faith-based organizations and houses of
 4 worship) and with physical and online se-
 5 curity measures to identify and prevent
 6 safety and security risks.

7 ~~(2) CLEARINGHOUSE CONTENTS.—~~

8 ~~(A) EVIDENCE-BASED TIERS.—~~

9 ~~(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in~~
 10 ~~consultation with the Attorney General, the~~
 11 ~~Executive Director of the White House Of-~~
 12 ~~fice of Faith-Based and Neighborhood~~
 13 ~~Partnerships, and the head of any other~~
 14 ~~agency the Secretary determines appro-~~
 15 ~~priate, shall develop tiers for determining~~
 16 ~~evidence-based best practices and rec-~~
 17 ~~ommendations that demonstrate a signifi-~~
 18 ~~cant effect on improving safety and secu-~~
 19 ~~rity of nonprofit organizations and houses~~
 20 ~~of worship.~~

21 ~~(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The tiers re-~~
 22 ~~quired to be developed under clause (i)~~
 23 ~~shall—~~

24 ~~(I) prioritize—~~

1 (aa) strong evidence from
2 not fewer than 1 well-designed
3 and well-implemented experi-
4 mental study; and

5 (bb) moderate evidence from
6 not fewer than 1 well-designed
7 and well-implemented quasi-ex-
8 perimental study; and

9 (H) consider promising evidence
10 that demonstrates a rationale based
11 on high-quality research findings or
12 positive evaluations that the activity,
13 strategy, or intervention is likely to
14 improve and promote safety and secu-
15 rity of nonprofit organizations and
16 houses of worship.

17 (B) CRITERIA FOR BEST PRACTICES AND
18 RECOMMENDATIONS.—The best practices and
19 recommendations referred to in paragraph
20 (1)(B)(i) of the Clearinghouse shall, at a min-
21 imum—

22 (i) identify areas of concern for non-
23 profit organizations and houses of worship,
24 including event planning recommendations,
25 checklists, facility hardening, tabletop exer-

1 eise resources, and other resilience meas-
2 ures;

3 (ii) involve comprehensive safety and
4 security measures, including threat preven-
5 tion, preparedness, protection, mitigation,
6 incident response, and recovery to improve
7 the safety and security posture of non-
8 profit organizations and houses of worship
9 upon implementation;

10 (iii) involve comprehensive safety and
11 security measures, including preparedness,
12 protection, mitigation, incident response,
13 and recovery to improve the resiliency of
14 nonprofit organizations and houses of wor-
15 ship from threats and incidents, including
16 natural disasters, manmade disasters, or
17 terrorist attacks or other threats;

18 (iv) include any evidence or research
19 rationale supporting the determination of
20 the Clearinghouse that the comprehensive
21 safety and security measures under clauses
22 (ii) and (iii) have been shown to have a
23 significant effect on improving the safety
24 and security of individuals who, at the time
25 of any such threat or incident, are phys-

1 ically located in the place or building of a
2 nonprofit organization or house of worship,
3 including—

4 (I) findings and data from pre-
5 vious Federal, State, local, Tribal, ter-
6 ritorial, private sector, and nongovern-
7 mental organization research centers
8 relating to the safety and security of
9 nonprofit organizations and houses of
10 worship, including from targeted vio-
11 lence; and

12 (II) other supportive evidence or
13 findings relied upon by the Clearing-
14 house in determining best practices
15 and recommendations to improve the
16 safety and security posture of non-
17 profit organizations and houses of
18 worship upon implementation; and

19 (v) include an overview of the avail-
20 able resources the Clearinghouse can pro-
21 vide to nonprofit organizations and houses
22 of worship.

23 (C) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**—The
24 Clearinghouse shall maintain and make avail-
25 able a comprehensive index of all Federal grant

1 programs for which nonprofit organizations and
2 houses of worship are eligible, which shall in-
3 clude the performance metrics for each grant
4 the recipient will be required to provide.

5 (D) PAST RECOMMENDATIONS.—To the
6 greatest extent practicable, the Clearinghouse
7 shall identify and present, as appropriate, best
8 practices and recommendations issued by Fed-
9 eral, State, local, Tribal, territorial, private sec-
10 tor, and nongovernmental organizations rel-
11 evant to the safety and security of nonprofit or-
12 ganizations (including faith-based organizations
13 and houses of worship).

14 (E) EXISTING PLATFORM.—The Secretary
15 may establish and maintain the Clearinghouse
16 on an online platform or a website that is in ex-
17 istence as of the date of enactment of this Act.

18 (3) ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—The Sec-
19 retary may produce and publish materials on the
20 Clearinghouse to assist and train nonprofit organiza-
21 tions, houses of worship, and law enforcement agen-
22 cies regarding the implementation of the best prac-
23 tices and recommendations under this subsection.

24 (4) CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT.—

25 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

1 (i) collect for the purpose of contin-
2 uous improvement of the Clearinghouse—

3 (I) Clearinghouse data analytics;

4 (II) user feedback on the imple-
5 mentation of resources, best practices,
6 and recommendations identified by
7 the Clearinghouse; and

8 (III) any evaluations conducted
9 regarding implementation of such best
10 practices and recommendations;

11 (ii) in coordination with the Faith-
12 Based Security Advisory Council of the
13 Department, the Department of Justice,
14 the Executive Director of the White House
15 Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood
16 Partnerships, and any other agency the
17 Secretary determines appropriate—

18 (I) assess and identify Clearing-
19 house best practices and recommenda-
20 tions for which there are no resources
21 available through Federal Government
22 programs for implementation;

23 (II) provide feedback on the im-
24 plementation of such best practices
25 and recommendations; and

1 (III) propose additional rec-
2 ommendations for best practices for
3 inclusion in the Clearinghouse; and

4 (iii) not less frequently than annually,
5 examine and update the Clearinghouse in
6 accordance with—

7 (I) the information collected
8 under clause (i); and

9 (II) the recommendations pro-
10 posed under clause (ii)(III).

11 (B) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The
12 Secretary shall submit to Congress, on an an-
13 nual basis, a report on the updates under sub-
14 paragraph (A)(iii) made to the Clearinghouse
15 during the preceding 1-year period, which shall
16 include a description of any changes made pur-
17 suant thereto to the Clearinghouse.

18 (b) NOTIFICATION OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide
20 to the individuals, Federal agencies, and committees
21 specified in paragraph (2) written notification of the
22 establishment of the Clearinghouse, including up-
23 dates pertaining to grant programs identified under
24 subsection (a)(2)(C).

1 (2) INDIVIDUALS, FEDERAL AGENCIES, AND
2 COMMITTEES SPECIFIED.—The individuals and enti-
3 ties specified in this paragraph are the following:

4 (A) Every State homeland security advisor.

5 (B) Every State department of homeland
6 security.

7 (C) Other Federal agencies with grant pro-
8 grams or initiatives that aid in the safety and
9 security of faith-based organizations and houses
10 of worship, as determined appropriate by the
11 Secretary.

12 (D) Every Cyber Security Advisor.

13 (E) Every Protective Security Advisor.

14 (F) Every Federal Bureau of Investigation
15 Joint Terrorism Task Force.

16 (G) Every Homeland Security Fusion Cen-
17 ter.

18 (H) Every State or territorial Governor or
19 other Chief Executive.

20 (I) The Committee on Homeland Security
21 and Governmental Affairs and the Committee
22 on the Judiciary of the Senate.

23 (J) The Committee on Homeland Security
24 and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
25 House of Representatives.

1 (e) FEDERAL GRANTS AND RESOURCES OVER-
2 VIEW.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent practicable,
4 the Secretary, when carrying out subsection
5 (a)(2)(C), shall include a grants program overview
6 on the website of the Clearinghouse that shall—

7 (A) be the location for all information re-
8 garding Federal grant programs that are open
9 to nonprofit organizations and houses of wor-
10 ship;

11 (B) directly link to each grant application
12 and any applicable user guides;

13 (C) identify all safety and security home-
14 land security assistance programs managed by
15 the Department that may be used to implement
16 best practices and recommendations of the
17 Clearinghouse;

18 (D) concurrent with the application period
19 for any grant identified under subsection
20 (a)(2)(C), provide information related to the re-
21 quired elements of grant applications to aid
22 nonprofit organizations and houses of worship
23 in meeting the eligibility criteria for Federal
24 grants; and

1 ~~(E)~~ provide answers to frequently asked
2 questions regarding the implementation of best
3 practices and recommendations of the Clearing-
4 house and best practices for applying for a
5 grant identified under subsection (a)(2)(C).

6 ~~(2) PROVISION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO~~
7 ~~FEDERAL GRANTS AND RESOURCES.—~~Each Federal
8 agency notified under subsection (b) shall provide to
9 the Secretary or other appropriate point of contact
10 for the Clearinghouse for inclusion in the Clearing-
11 house necessary information regarding any Federal
12 grant programs or resources of the Federal agency
13 that are available for nonprofit organizations and
14 houses of worship.

15 ~~(3) STATE GRANTS AND RESOURCES.—~~

16 ~~(A) IN GENERAL.—~~Any State notified
17 under subsection (b) may provide to the Sec-
18 retary or other appropriate point of contact for
19 the Clearinghouse for inclusion in the Clearing-
20 house necessary information regarding any
21 grant programs or resources of the State avail-
22 able for nonprofit organizations and houses of
23 worship.

1 (B) IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES.—

2 The Clearinghouse shall, to the extent prac-
3 ticable, identify for each State the following:

4 (i) Each State agency responsible for
5 safety and security of nonprofit organiza-
6 tions and houses of worship in the State,
7 or any State that does not have such an
8 agency designated.

9 (ii) Any grant program that may be
10 used for the purposes of implementing best
11 practices and recommendations of the
12 Clearinghouse.

13 (iii) Any resources or programs, in-
14 cluding community prevention or interven-
15 tion efforts, that may be used to assist in
16 targeted violence and terrorism prevention.

17 (d) OTHER RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall, on the
18 website of the Clearinghouse, include a separate section
19 for other resources that shall provide a centralized list of
20 all available points of contact from which a nonprofit orga-
21 nization or house of worship may seek assistance in grant
22 applications and in carrying out the best practices and rec-
23 ommendations of the Clearinghouse, including the fol-
24 lowing:

1 (1) A list of contact information to reach De-
2 partment personnel to assist with grant-related ques-
3 tions.

4 (2) The applicable Agency contact information
5 to connect houses of worship with Protective Secu-
6 rity Advisors.

7 (3) Contact information for all Department Fu-
8 sion Centers, listed by State.

9 (4) Information on the “If you See Something
10 Say Something Campaign” of the Department.

11 (5) Any other appropriate contacts.

12 (c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
13 tion may be construed to create, satisfy, or waive any re-
14 quirement under Federal civil rights laws, including—

15 (1) title II of the Americans With Disabilities
16 Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131 et seq.); or

17 (2) title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42
18 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.).

19 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

20 *This Act may be cited as the “Pray Safe Act of 2023”.*

21 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

22 *In this Act:*

23 (1) **CLEARINGHOUSE.**—*The term “Clearing-*
24 *house” means the Federal Clearinghouse on Safety*
25 *and Security Best Practices for Nonprofit Organiza-*

1 *tions, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Wor-*
 2 *ship established under section 3(a).*

3 (2) *DEPARTMENT.*—*The term “Department”*
 4 *means the Department of Homeland Security.*

5 (3) *FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATION.*—*The term*
 6 *“faith-based organization” means a group, center, or*
 7 *nongovernmental organization with a religious, ideo-*
 8 *logical, or spiritual motivation, character, affiliation,*
 9 *or purpose that meets the definition of nonprofit orga-*
 10 *nization.*

11 (4) *HOUSE OF WORSHIP.*—*The term “house of*
 12 *worship” means a place or building, including a syn-*
 13 *agogue, mosque, temple, and church, in which*
 14 *congregants practice their religious or spiritual be-*
 15 *liefs.*

16 (5) *NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.*—*The term “non-*
 17 *profit organization” means an organization—*

18 (A) *of the type described in subsection (c)(3)*
 19 *of section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code of*
 20 *1986 and exempt from taxation under subsection*
 21 *(a) of such section; and*

22 (B) *determined to be at risk of a terrorist*
 23 *attack or other threat by the Secretary.*

24 (6) *SAFETY AND SECURITY.*—*The term “safety*
 25 *and security” means prevention of, protection*

1 *against, or recovery from threats and incidents, in-*
 2 *cluding natural disasters, manmade disasters, or ter-*
 3 *rorist attacks.*

4 (7) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
 5 *the Secretary of Homeland Security.*

6 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON SAFETY AND SECU-**
 7 **RITY BEST PRACTICES FOR NONPROFIT OR-**
 8 **GANIZATIONS, FAITH-BASED ORGANIZA-**
 9 **TIONS, AND HOUSES OF WORSHIP.**

10 (a) *FEDERAL CLEARINGHOUSE.*—

11 (1) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—

12 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 270 days*
 13 *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-*
 14 *retary, in consultation with the Attorney Gen-*
 15 *eral, the Executive Director of the White House*
 16 *Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partner-*
 17 *ships, and the head of any other agency the Sec-*
 18 *retary determines appropriate, shall establish*
 19 *within the Department a Federal Clearinghouse*
 20 *on Safety and Security Best Practices for Non-*
 21 *profit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations,*
 22 *and Houses of Worship.*

23 (B) *PURPOSE.*—*The Clearinghouse shall be*
 24 *the primary resource of the Federal Government*
 25 *to—*

1 (i) educate and publish online best
2 practices and recommendations for safety
3 and security for nonprofit organizations,
4 including faith-based organizations, and
5 houses of worship; and

6 (ii) provide information relating to
7 Federal grant programs available to non-
8 profit organizations, including faith-based
9 organizations, and houses of worship.

10 (C) PERSONNEL.—

11 (i) ASSIGNMENTS.—The Clearinghouse
12 shall be assigned such personnel and re-
13 sources as the Secretary considers appro-
14 priate to carry out this subsection.

15 (ii) DETAILEES.—The Secretary may
16 coordinate detailees on a reimbursable or a
17 nonreimbursable basis as required for the
18 Clearinghouse.

19 (iii) DESIGNATED POINT OF CON-
20 TACT.—

21 (I) IN GENERAL.—There shall be
22 not fewer than 1 employee assigned or
23 detailed to the Clearinghouse who shall
24 be the designated point of contact to
25 provide information and assistance to

1 *nonprofit organizations, including*
 2 *faith-based organizations, and houses*
 3 *of worship, including assistance relat-*
 4 *ing to the grant program established*
 5 *under subsection (c).*

6 (II) *CONTACT INFORMATION.—The*
 7 *contact information of the designated*
 8 *point of contact under subclause (I)*
 9 *shall be made available on the website*
 10 *of the Clearinghouse.*

11 (iv) *QUALIFICATION.—To the max-*
 12 *imum extent possible, any personnel as-*
 13 *signed or detailed to the Clearinghouse*
 14 *under this subparagraph should be familiar*
 15 *with nonprofit organizations, including*
 16 *faith-based organizations, and houses of*
 17 *worship and with physical and online secu-*
 18 *rity measures to identify and prevent safety*
 19 *and security risks.*

20 (2) *CLEARINGHOUSE CONTENTS.—*

21 (A) *EVIDENCE-BASED TIERS.—*

22 (i) *IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in*
 23 *consultation with the Attorney General, the*
 24 *Executive Director of the White House Of-*
 25 *fice of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Part-*

1 *nerships, and the head of any other agency*
 2 *the Secretary determines appropriate, shall*
 3 *develop tiers for determining evidence-based*
 4 *best practices and recommendations that*
 5 *demonstrate a significant effect on improv-*
 6 *ing safety and security of nonprofit organi-*
 7 *zations, including faith-based organizations,*
 8 *and houses of worship.*

9 *(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—The tiers re-*
 10 *quired to be developed under clause (i)*
 11 *shall—*

12 *(I) prioritize—*

13 *(aa) strong evidence from not*
 14 *fewer than 1 well-designed and*
 15 *well-implemented experimental*
 16 *study; and*

17 *(bb) moderate evidence from*
 18 *not fewer than 1 well-designed*
 19 *and well-implemented quasi-ex-*
 20 *perimental study; and*

21 *(II) consider promising evidence*
 22 *that demonstrates a rationale based on*
 23 *high-quality research findings or posi-*
 24 *tive evaluations that the activity, strat-*
 25 *egy, or intervention is likely to im-*

1 *prove and promote safety and security*
2 *of nonprofit organizations, including*
3 *faith-based organizations, and houses*
4 *of worship.*

5 *(B) CRITERIA FOR BEST PRACTICES AND*
6 *RECOMMENDATIONS.—The best practices and rec-*
7 *ommendations referred to in paragraph (1)(B)(i)*
8 *of the Clearinghouse shall, at a minimum—*

9 *(i) identify areas of concern for non-*
10 *profit organizations, including faith-based*
11 *organizations, and houses of worship, in-*
12 *cluding event planning recommendations,*
13 *checklists, facility hardening, tabletop exer-*
14 *cise resources, and other resilience measures;*

15 *(ii) involve comprehensive safety and*
16 *security measures, including threat preven-*
17 *tion, preparedness, protection, mitigation,*
18 *incident response, and recovery to improve*
19 *the safety and security posture of nonprofit*
20 *organizations, including faith-based organi-*
21 *zations, and houses of worship upon imple-*
22 *mentation;*

23 *(iii) involve comprehensive safety and*
24 *security measures, including preparedness,*
25 *protection, mitigation, incident response,*

1 *and recovery to improve the resiliency of*
2 *nonprofit organizations, including faith-*
3 *based organizations, and houses of worship*
4 *from threats and incidents, including nat-*
5 *ural disasters, manmade disasters, or ter-*
6 *rorist attacks or other threats;*

7 *(iv) include any evidence or research*
8 *rationale supporting the determination of*
9 *the Clearinghouse that the comprehensive*
10 *safety and security measures under clauses*
11 *(ii) and (iii) have been shown to have a sig-*
12 *nificant effect on improving the safety and*
13 *security of individuals who, at the time of*
14 *any such threat or incident, are physically*
15 *located in the place or building of a non-*
16 *profit organization, including a faith-based*
17 *organization, or a house of worship, includ-*
18 *ing—*

19 *(I) findings and data from pre-*
20 *vious Federal, State, local, Tribal, ter-*
21 *ritorial, private sector, and nongovern-*
22 *mental organization research centers*
23 *relating to the safety and security of*
24 *nonprofit organizations, including*
25 *faith-based organizations, and houses*

1 of worship, including from targeted vi-
2 olence; and

3 (II) other supportive evidence or
4 findings relied upon by the Clearing-
5 house in determining best practices
6 and recommendations to improve the
7 safety and security posture of non-
8 profit organizations, including faith-
9 based organizations, and houses of wor-
10 ship upon implementation; and

11 (v) include an overview of the available
12 resources the Clearinghouse can provide to
13 nonprofit organizations and houses of wor-
14 ship.

15 (C) *ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.*—The Clear-
16 inghouse shall maintain and make available a
17 comprehensive index of all Federal grant pro-
18 grams for which nonprofit organizations, includ-
19 ing faith-based organizations, and houses of wor-
20 ship are eligible, which shall include the per-
21 formance metrics the recipient will be required to
22 provide for each grant.

23 (D) *PAST RECOMMENDATIONS.*—To the
24 greatest extent practicable, the Clearinghouse
25 shall identify and present, as appropriate, best

1 *practices and recommendations issued by Fed-*
 2 *eral, State, local, Tribal, territorial, private sec-*
 3 *tor, and nongovernmental organizations relevant*
 4 *to the safety and security of nonprofit organiza-*
 5 *tions, including faith-based organizations, and*
 6 *houses of worship.*

7 *(E) EXISTING PLATFORM.—The Secretary*
 8 *may establish and maintain the Clearinghouse*
 9 *on an online platform or a website that is in ex-*
 10 *istence as of the date of enactment of this Act.*

11 *(3) ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—The Secretary*
 12 *may produce and publish materials on the Clearing-*
 13 *house to assist and train nonprofit organizations, in-*
 14 *cluding faith-based organizations, and houses of wor-*
 15 *ship regarding the implementation of the best prac-*
 16 *tices and recommendations under this subsection.*

17 *(4) CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT.—*

18 *(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—*

19 *(i) collect for the purpose of continuous*
 20 *improvement of the Clearinghouse—*

21 *(I) Clearinghouse data analytics;*

22 *(II) user feedback on the imple-*
 23 *mentation of resources, best practices,*
 24 *and recommendations identified by the*
 25 *Clearinghouse; and*

1 (III) any evaluations conducted
2 regarding implementation of such best
3 practices and recommendations;

4 (ii) in coordination with the Faith-
5 Based Security Advisory Council of the De-
6 partment, the Department of Justice, the
7 Executive Director of the White House Of-
8 fice of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Part-
9 nerships, and any other agency the Sec-
10 retary determines appropriate—

11 (I) assess and identify Clearing-
12 house best practices and recommenda-
13 tions for which there are no resources
14 available through Federal Government
15 programs for implementation;

16 (II) provide feedback on the im-
17 plementation of such best practices and
18 recommendations; and

19 (III) propose additional best prac-
20 tices and recommendations for inclu-
21 sion in the Clearinghouse; and

22 (iii) not less frequently than annually,
23 examine and update the Clearinghouse in
24 accordance with—

1 (I) the information collected under
2 clause (i); and

3 (II) the best practices and rec-
4 ommendations proposed under clause
5 (ii)(III).

6 (B) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than
7 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act,
8 and every 3 years thereafter during the period in
9 which the Clearinghouse is in existence, the Sec-
10 retary shall submit to Congress a report on the
11 updates under subparagraph (A)(iii) made to the
12 Clearinghouse during the preceding 3-year pe-
13 riod, which shall include a description of any
14 changes made pursuant thereto to the Clearing-
15 house.

16 (b) *NOTIFICATION OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE.*—

17 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary shall provide to
18 the individuals, Federal agencies, and committees
19 specified in paragraph (2) written notification of the
20 establishment of the Clearinghouse, including updates
21 pertaining to grant programs identified under sub-
22 section (a)(2)(C).

23 (2) *INDIVIDUALS, FEDERAL AGENCIES, AND COM-*
24 *MITTEES SPECIFIED.*—The individuals, Federal enti-

1 *ties, and committees specified in this paragraph are*
2 *the following:*

3 *(A) Every State homeland security advisor.*

4 *(B) Every State department of homeland se-*
5 *curity.*

6 *(C) Other Federal agencies with grant pro-*
7 *grams or initiatives that aid in the safety and*
8 *security of nonprofit organizations, including*
9 *faith-based organizations, and houses of worship,*
10 *as determined appropriate by the Secretary.*

11 *(D) Every Cyber Security Advisor.*

12 *(E) Every Protective Security Advisor.*

13 *(F) Every Federal Bureau of Investigation*
14 *Joint Terrorism Task Force.*

15 *(G) Every Homeland Security Fusion Cen-*
16 *ter.*

17 *(H) Every State or territorial Governor or*
18 *other chief executive.*

19 *(I) The Committee on Homeland Security*
20 *and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on*
21 *the Judiciary of the Senate.*

22 *(J) The Committee on Homeland Security*
23 *and the Committee on the Judiciary of the*
24 *House of Representatives.*

25 *(c) FEDERAL GRANTS AND RESOURCES OVERVIEW.—*

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*To the extent practicable, the*
2 *Secretary, when carrying out subsection (a)(2)(C),*
3 *shall include a grants program overview on the*
4 *website of the Clearinghouse that shall—*

5 (A) *be a location for all information regard-*
6 *ing Federal grant programs that are open to*
7 *nonprofit organizations, including faith-based*
8 *organizations, and houses of worship for the pur-*
9 *poses of safety and security;*

10 (B) *directly link to each grant application*
11 *and any applicable user guides;*

12 (C) *identify all safety and security home-*
13 *land security assistance programs managed by*
14 *the Department that may be used to implement*
15 *best practices and recommendations of the Clear-*
16 *inghouse;*

17 (D) *concurrent with the application period*
18 *for any grant identified under subsection*
19 *(a)(2)(C), provide information related to the re-*
20 *quired elements of grant applications to aid non-*
21 *profit organizations, including faith-based orga-*
22 *nizations, and houses of worship in meeting the*
23 *eligibility criteria for Federal grants; and*

24 (E) *provide answers to frequently asked*
25 *questions regarding the implementation of best*

1 *practices and recommendations of the Clearing-*
2 *house and best practices for applying for a grant*
3 *identified under subsection (a)(2)(C).*

4 (2) *PROVISION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO*
5 *FEDERAL GRANTS AND RESOURCES.—Each Federal*
6 *agency notified under subsection (b) shall provide to*
7 *the Secretary or other appropriate point of contact*
8 *for the Clearinghouse for inclusion in the Clearing-*
9 *house necessary information regarding any Federal*
10 *grant programs or resources of the Federal agency*
11 *that are available for nonprofit organizations, includ-*
12 *ing faith-based organizations, and houses of worship.*

13 (3) *STATE GRANTS AND RESOURCES.—*

14 (A) *IN GENERAL.—Any State notified under*
15 *subsection (b) may provide to the Secretary or*
16 *other appropriate point of contact for the Clear-*
17 *inghouse for inclusion in the Clearinghouse nec-*
18 *essary information regarding any grant pro-*
19 *grams or resources of the State available for non-*
20 *profit organizations, including faith-based orga-*
21 *nizations, and houses of worship for the purposes*
22 *of safety and security.*

23 (B) *IDENTIFICATION OF RESOURCES.—The*
24 *Clearinghouse shall, to the extent practicable,*
25 *identify for each State the following:*

1 (i) *Each State agency responsible for*
2 *safety and security of nonprofit organiza-*
3 *tions, including faith-based organizations,*
4 *and houses of worship in the State, or any*
5 *State that does not have such an agency*
6 *designated.*

7 (ii) *Any grant program that may be*
8 *used for the purposes of implementing best*
9 *practices and recommendations of the Clear-*
10 *inghouse.*

11 (iii) *Any resources or programs, in-*
12 *cluding community prevention or interven-*
13 *tion efforts, that may be used to assist in*
14 *targeted violence and terrorism prevention.*

15 (d) *OTHER RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall, on the*
16 *website of the Clearinghouse, include a separate section for*
17 *other resources that shall provide a centralized list of all*
18 *available points of contact from which a nonprofit organi-*
19 *zation, including a faith-based organization, or a house of*
20 *worship may seek assistance in grant applications and in*
21 *carrying out the best practices and recommendations of the*
22 *Clearinghouse, including the following:*

23 (1) *A list of contact information to reach De-*
24 *partment personnel to assist with grant-related ques-*
25 *tions.*

1 (2) *The applicable Agency contact information to*
 2 *connect houses of worship with Protective Security*
 3 *Advisors.*

4 (3) *Contact information for all Department Fu-*
 5 *sion Centers, listed by State.*

6 (4) *Information on the “If you See Something*
 7 *Say Something Campaign” of the Department.*

8 (5) *Any other appropriate contacts.*

9 (e) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section*
 10 *may be construed to create, satisfy, or waive any require-*
 11 *ment under Federal civil rights laws, including—*

12 (1) *title II of the Americans With Disabilities*
 13 *Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12131 et seq.); or*

14 (2) *title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42*
 15 *U.S.C. 2000d et seq.).*

16 (f) *SUNSET.—This Act shall cease to be effective on the*
 17 *date that is 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act.*

18 **SEC. 4. GAO REPORT.**

19 *The Comptroller General of the United States shall*
 20 *submit to Congress a report on the state of Federal grants*
 21 *devoted to safety and security for nonprofit organizations,*
 22 *including faith-based organizations, and houses of worship,*
 23 *and an evaluation of the relevant programs and resources*
 24 *devoted to the safety and security of nonprofit organiza-*

- 1 *tions, including faith-based organizations, and houses of*
- 2 *worship as of the date of the report.*

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118TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

S. 1886

[Report No. 118-90]

A BILL

To establish a Federal Clearinghouse on Safety and Best Practices for Nonprofit Organizations, Faith-based Organizations, and Houses of Worship within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

AUGUST 22, 2023

Reported under authority of the order of the Senate of
July 27, 2023, with an amendment