

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To allow Homeland Security Grant Program funds to be used to safeguard faith-based community centers across the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. HELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To allow Homeland Security Grant Program funds to be used to safeguard faith-based community centers across the United States, 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 “Faith-Based Commu-
5 nity Center Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 Title XX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6
9 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 2001 (6 U.S.C. 601)—

2 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (6)
3 through (14) as paragraphs (7) through (15),
4 respectively; and

5 (B) by inserting after paragraph (5) the
6 following:

7 “(6) FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY CENTER.—The
8 term ‘faith-based community center’ means a facility
9 operated by a nonprofit faith-based community orga-
10 nization for the provision of recreational, social, or
11 education services to the general public.”; and

12 (2) in section 2008 (6 U.S.C. 609)—

13 (A) in subsection (a)—

14 (i) in paragraph (13), by striking
15 “and” at the end;

16 (ii) by redesignating paragraph (14)
17 as paragraph (15); and

18 (iii) by inserting after paragraph (13)
19 the following:

20 “(14) protecting a faith-based community cen-
21 ter or vulnerable populations, including children or
22 the elderly; and”; and

23 (B) by adding at the end the following:

24 “(g) PROTECTION OF FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY
25 CENTERS AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.—

1 “(1) ALLOCATION OF GRANT FUNDS.—Of the
2 total amount authorized to be appropriated under
3 paragraph (3) for grants awarded for the purpose
4 described in subsection (a)(14), the Administrator
5 shall award—

6 “(A) 50 percent for the protection of faith-
7 based community centers and vulnerable popu-
8 lations in communities with a population of not
9 more than 1,000,000 individuals, as determined
10 by the latest available decennial census; and

11 “(B) 50 percent for the protection of faith-
12 based community centers in communities and
13 vulnerable populations with a population of
14 more than 1,000,000 individuals, as determined
15 by the latest available decennial census.

16 “(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of
18 a grant awarded for the purpose described in
19 subsection (a)(14) may not exceed 50 percent of
20 the total cost of a project and the non-Federal
21 share

22 “(B) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—The non-
23 Federal share of project costs under a grant
24 awarded for the purpose described in subsection
25 (a)(14) may be paid in cash or in-kind from a

1 grantee or a nonprofit entity involved with the
2 project.

3 “(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 There are authorized to be appropriated
5 \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2017 to the Adminis-
6 trator to make grants for the purpose described in
7 subsection (a)(14).”.

8 **SEC. 3. FALSE INFORMATION AND HOAXES.**

9 Section 1038(a)(1)(A) of title 18, United State Code,
10 is amended by striking “5 years” and inserting “10
11 years”.