

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To transfer funds for Energy Efficiency Improvements and Renewable Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities to the Attorney General to award grants to States to promote safety and security in schools.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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\_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was read twice  
and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To transfer funds for Energy Efficiency Improvements and Renewable Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities to the Attorney General to award grants to States to promote safety and security in schools.

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 “Security to Avoid Vio-  
5 lence in Educational Settings Act” or the “SAVES Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATES FOR SCHOOL SAFE-**  
7 **TY AND SECURITY.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
2           ty” means—

3                   (A) a local educational agency, as defined  
4                   in section 8101 of the Elementary and Sec-  
5                   ondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
6                   7801);

7                   (B) an Indian Tribe or Tribal organiza-  
8                   tion, as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-  
9                   Determination and Education Assistance Act  
10                  (25 U.S.C. 5304); or

11                  (C) an elementary school or secondary  
12                  school, as such terms are defined in section  
13                  8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-  
14                  cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

15           (2) STATE.—The term “State” means each of  
16           the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the  
17           Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

18           (b) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—The amount appro-  
19           priated for Energy Efficiency Improvements and Renew-  
20           able Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities, as  
21           authorized under section 40541 of the Infrastructure In-  
22           vestment and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18831), under the In-  
23           frastructure Investments and Jobs Appropriations Act (di-  
24           vision B of Public Law 117–58) is transferred to the At-  
25           torney General to carry out subsection (c).

1 (c) GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATES FOR SCHOOL  
2 SAFETY AND SECURITY.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall  
4 use the amount transferred under subsection (b) to  
5 award grants to States from allotments under para-  
6 graph (2) for each of fiscal years 2023 through  
7 2027. From the amount transferred, \$100,000,000  
8 shall be available to be allotted for each fiscal year.

9 (2) STATE ALLOTMENTS.—

10 (A) ALLOTMENT.—

11 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clauses  
12 (ii) and (iii), from the amount available to  
13 be allotted for a fiscal year under para-  
14 graph (1), the Attorney General shall allot  
15 to each State for the fiscal year an amount  
16 that bears the same relationship to the  
17 amount available as the number of individ-  
18 uals residing in the State who are aged 5  
19 through 17, bears to the number of such  
20 individuals residing in all States.

21 (ii) SMALL STATE MINIMUM.—No  
22 State receiving an allotment under this  
23 subparagraph for a fiscal year shall receive  
24 less than 0.75 percent of the total amount

1                   allotted under this subparagraph for the  
2                   fiscal year.

3                   (iii) PUERTO RICO.—The amount al-  
4                   lotted under this subparagraph to the  
5                   Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for a fiscal  
6                   year may not exceed 0.75 percent of the  
7                   total amount allotted under this subpara-  
8                   graph for the fiscal year.

9                   (B) REALLOTMENT.—If a State does not  
10                  receive an allotment under this paragraph for a  
11                  fiscal year, the Attorney General shall reallo-  
12                  t the amount of the State’s allotment to the re-  
13                  maining States for the fiscal year in accordance  
14                  with this paragraph.

15                  (3) USE OF ALLOTMENT.—Each State that re-  
16                  ceives an allotment under paragraph (2) for a fiscal  
17                  year shall—

18                         (A) reserve not less than 95 percent of the  
19                         allotment to make subgrants to eligible entities  
20                         under paragraph (4);

21                         (B) reserve not more than 1 percent of the  
22                         allotment for the administrative costs of car-  
23                         rying out its responsibilities under this section,  
24                         including public reporting on how funds made

1 available under this section are being expended  
2 by eligible entities; and

3 (C) use the amount made available to the  
4 State and not reserved under subparagraphs  
5 (A) and (B) for activities designed to support  
6 eligible entities in identifying, planning, and im-  
7 plementing school security improvements.

8 (4) SUBGRANTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each State that re-  
10 ceives an allotment under paragraph (2) shall  
11 award subgrants to eligible entities to support  
12 the eligible entities in identifying, planning, and  
13 implementing school security improvements.

14 (B) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible entity  
15 that desires to receive a subgrant grant under  
16 this paragraph shall submit an application to  
17 the State at such time, in such manner, and ac-  
18 companied by such information as the State  
19 may require.

20 (C) USE OF SUBGRANT FUNDS.—An eligi-  
21 ble entity that receives a subgrant under this  
22 paragraph shall use the subgrant funds, subject  
23 to any rules established by the State, for the  
24 purpose of planning and designing school build-  
25 ings and facilities, installing infrastructure, and

1 implementing technology or other measures,  
2 that strengthen security on school premises,  
3 which may include—

4 (i) controlling access to school prem-  
5 ises or facilities, through the use of metal  
6 detectors, or other measures, or tech-  
7 nology, with evidence-based effectiveness  
8 (to the extent the State involved deter-  
9 mines that such evidence is reasonably  
10 available), in accordance with the needs of  
11 the school;

12 (ii) implementing any technology or  
13 measure, or installing any infrastructure,  
14 to cover and conceal students within the  
15 school during crisis situations;

16 (iii) implementing technology to pro-  
17 vide notification to relevant law enforce-  
18 ment and first responders during crisis sit-  
19 uations;

20 (iv) implementing any technology or  
21 measure, including hiring school security  
22 officers, or installing any infrastructure,  
23 with evidence-based effectiveness (to the  
24 extent the State involved determines that  
25 such evidence is reasonably available) to

1 increase the safety of school students and  
2 staff;

3 (v) implementing any digital content  
4 monitoring technology to assist in the mon-  
5 itoring of communication on school-pro-  
6 vided platforms, as long as the system does  
7 not transmit data outside of the United  
8 States and uses human review instead of  
9 automated alerts to increase safety of  
10 school students and staff;

11 (vi) implementing any technology or  
12 measure, or installing any infrastructure,  
13 for school safety reinforcement, including  
14 bullet-resistant doors and windows; and

15 (vii) implementing any technology or  
16 system that would reduce the time needed  
17 to disseminate official information to par-  
18 ents regarding the safety of their children  
19 during and immediately following a crisis.

20 (D) RESTRICTION ON DOJ.—The Attorney  
21 General may not promulgate a rule that re-  
22 stricts a State’s ability to determine the eligible  
23 uses of subgrant funds awarded under this  
24 paragraph.

25 (5) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—

1           (A) STATE MATCH.—Each State that re-  
2 ceives a grant under this section shall provide  
3 non-Federal matching funds equal to 20 per-  
4 cent of the amount of the grant toward the cost  
5 of carrying out the activities described in this  
6 section.

7           (B) ELIGIBLE ENTITY MATCH.—

8           (i) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible entity  
9 that receives a subgrant under this section  
10 shall provide matching funds, in cash or  
11 through in-kind contributions, from Fed-  
12 eral, State, local, or private sources in an  
13 amount equal to 5 percent of the amount  
14 of the subgrant toward the cost of carrying  
15 out the activities described in this section.

16           (ii) WAIVER.—

17           (I) IN GENERAL.—A State may  
18 waive the matching funds requirement  
19 under clause (i), on a case-by-case  
20 basis, upon a showing of exceptional  
21 circumstances, such as—

22                   (aa) the difficulty of raising  
23 matching funds for a program to  
24 serve a rural area;



1 (bb) the difficulty of raising  
2 matching funds in areas with a  
3 concentration of local educational  
4 agencies or schools with a high  
5 percentage of students aged 5  
6 through 17—

7 (AA) who are in pov-  
8 erty, as counted in the most  
9 recent census data approved  
10 by the Attorney General;

11 (BB) who are eligible  
12 for a free or reduced price  
13 lunch under the Richard B.  
14 Russell National School  
15 Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751  
16 et seq.);

17 (CC) whose families re-  
18 ceive assistance under the  
19 State program funded under  
20 part A of title IV of the So-  
21 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
22 601 et seq.); or

23 (DD) who are eligible  
24 to receive medical assistance

1 under the Medicaid pro-  
2 gram; and

3 (cc) the difficulty of raising  
4 funds on tribal land.

5 (II) STATE TO COVER ELIGIBLE  
6 ENTITY MATCH.—A State that waives  
7 the matching funds requirement  
8 under clause (i), shall provide the  
9 amount waived in addition to the  
10 State match required under subpara-  
11 graph (A).

12 (iii) CONSIDERATION.—A State shall  
13 not consider an eligible entity's ability to  
14 match funds when determining which eligi-  
15 ble entity will receive subgrants under this  
16 section.