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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant to support communities transitioning to health-centered responses for mental health-related emergencies.

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**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant to support communities transitioning to health-centered responses for mental health-related emergencies.

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 “Mental Health Crisis  
5       Response Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CRISIS RESPONSE ALTER-**  
2 **NATIVES.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 270 days  
4 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney  
5 General, in partnership with the Assistant Secretary for  
6 Mental Health and Substance Use, shall establish a grant  
7 program, to award, on a competitive basis, grants to eligi-  
8 ble jurisdictions for the purposes of implementing or ex-  
9 panding health-centered crisis response strategies for indi-  
10 viduals experiencing behavioral health emergencies.

11 (b) ELIGIBLE JURISDICTIONS.—An jurisdiction shall  
12 be eligible for a grant under subsection (a) if the State,  
13 Tribal, or local government manages emergency services  
14 in response to any incident, including law enforcement and  
15 emergency medical services.

16 (c) APPLICATION.—An eligible jurisdiction seeking a  
17 grant under this section shall submit an application to the  
18 Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and con-  
19 taining such information as the Attorney General may rea-  
20 sonably require.

21 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant awarded under sub-  
22 section (a) may be used by an eligible jurisdiction to:

23 (1) Embed mental health professionals into 911  
24 dispatch and call triage systems.

1           (2) Develop alternative 911 call routing to 988  
2           or other mental health or substance abuse crisis hot-  
3           line service.

4           (3) Form partnerships between State or local  
5           emergency services and State or local 911 dispatch  
6           centers to ensure a streamlined handoff without re-  
7           quiring the caller to hangup and dial 988 or other  
8           mental health or substance abuse crisis hotline serv-  
9           ice.

10          (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act  
11 shall be construed to—

12           (1) require a State, Tribe, or local government  
13           to remove law enforcement from a emergency re-  
14           sponse model; or

15           (2) preempt a State law regarding involuntary  
16           psychiatric holds, involuntary treatment, or any  
17           emergency authority that would hinder public safety.

18          (f) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—An eligible jurisdic-  
19 tion awarded a grant under this section shall submit an  
20 annual report on—

21           (1) the amount of time it takes for a response  
22           to an incident;

23           (2) use of force by law enforcement or any  
24           other individual responding to an incident where an  
25           individual requires assistance;

1           (3) diversion rates; and

2           (4) any other information requested by the At-  
3       torney General or Assistant Secretary for Mental  
4       Health and Substance Use.

5       (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
6       are authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 for each  
7       of fiscal years 2027 through 2031 to carry out this sec-  
8       tion.