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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program with respect to 24/7 sobriety programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program with respect to 24/7 sobriety programs, 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 “Supporting Opportuni-
5 ties to Build Everyday Responsibility Act of 2024” or the
6 “Sober Act of 2024”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Crimes attributed to alcohol abuse have
2 been estimated to cost the United States \$84 billion
3 annually.

4 (2) One in four federal prisoners and nearly one
5 in three state prisoners reported drinking alcohol at
6 the time of the offense that led to their incarceration.
7 ation.

8 (3) A 24/7 sobriety program is intended to help
9 people with substance use disorders to achieve long
10 term sobriety. It complements ignition interlock de-
11 vices and should be used in tandem with ignition
12 interlock devices that protect public safety.

13 (4) In South Dakota a \$400,000 investment in
14 a statewide 24/7 sobriety program led to at least
15 \$28 million in savings—\$70 saved for every dollar
16 spent.

17 (5) Participants in Montana's 24/7 sobriety
18 program saw an 80% reduction in the probability of
19 rearrest for a DUI.

20 (6) A 24/7 sobriety program should be imple-
21 mented along with effective screening and assess-
22 ment to ensure effective identification of individuals
23 with substance use disorders.

24 (7) 24/7 sobriety programs are not a substitute
25 for criminal investigations or prosecutions.

1 (8) 24/7 sobriety programs should provide an
2 opportunity for victim input when determining
3 whether an individual qualifies for the program.

4 (9) Input from Federal, State, or local law en-
5 forcement and prosecutors should be considered
6 when potentially admitting an individual into a 24/
7 7 sobriety program.

8 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM FOR 24/7 SOBRIETY PROGRAMS.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
10 the date of the enactment of this act, the Secretary of
11 Transportation shall establish a grant program (in this
12 Act referred to as the “Program”) to distribute funding
13 for state, local, and tribal 24/7 sobriety programs.

14 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the Pro-
15 gram, the Secretary may award a grant to an eligible re-
16 cipient that submits an application for the Program.

17 (c) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Grants awarded under the
19 Program may be awarded to a State, Tribal govern-
20 ment, or an agency, office, or a group of such agen-
21 cies or offices of the State or Tribal government for
22 the purpose of administering an eligible project
23 under subsection (e).

24 (2) SUBGRANT.—An eligible recipient awarded
25 a grant under the Program may distribute a

1 subgrant of funds awarded under the program to
2 any local government office or agency, or group of
3 offices or agencies, for the purpose of administering
4 an eligible project under subsection (e).

5 (d) PLAN.—To be eligible for a grant under the Pro-
6 gram, an eligible recipient shall submit to the Secretary
7 a plan for how the recipient would use the grant to main-
8 tain, expand, or implement a 24/7 sobriety program.

9 (e) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Grant funds awarded
10 under the Program shall be used to defray costs associated
11 with maintaining or expanding an existing 24/7 sobriety
12 program or implementing a new 24/7 sobriety program.

13 (f) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost
14 of a project assisted with a grant under the Program shall
15 not exceed 80 percent.

16 (g) REPORT BY ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—Not later
17 than 1 year after disbursement of funds to an eligible re-
18 cipient under the Program, such recipient shall submit to
19 the Secretary a report including, for each 24/7 sobriety
20 program funded by the recipient—

21 (1) information on eligibility and participation
22 in the 24/7 sobriety program;

23 (2) data with respect to the number of failed
24 tests by participants in the 24/7 sobriety program;

1 (3) data reflecting any criminal charges and
2 convictions among participants in the 24/7 sobriety
3 program during their participation in the program;

4 (4) data regarding programmatic outcomes, in-
5 cluding technical violations of the 24/7 sobriety pro-
6 gram and sanctions; and

7 (5) categorized expenses incurred for a 24/7 so-
8 briety program, including administrative expenses.

9 (h) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year
10 after receiving the grant recipient reports required under
11 subsection (g), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a
12 report containing data gathered from such grant recipient
13 reports.

14 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the Pro-
16 gram \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through
17 2029.

18 (j) 24/7 SOBRIETY PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this sec-
19 tion, the term “24/7 sobriety program” means a law or
20 program that authorizes a court or an agency with juris-
21 diction, as a condition of bond, sentence, probation, parole,
22 or work permit, to—

23 (1) require an individual to abstain from alcohol
24 or drugs for a period of time;

1 (2) require an individual to be subject to testing
2 for alcohol or drugs—

3 (A) at least twice per day at a testing loca-
4 tion; or

5 (B) by continuous transdermal alcohol
6 monitoring via an electronic monitoring device;
7 or

8 (3) impose an immediate sanction for a failed
9 a test for alcohol or drugs, including—

10 (A) a period of time in jail; or

11 (B) community service.

12 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

13 Section 405(d) of title 23, United States Code, is
14 amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (4)(B)—

16 (A) in clause (ix) by inserting “and” after
17 the semicolon;

18 (B) by striking clause (x); and

19 (C) by redesignating clause (xi) as clause
20 (x);

21 (2) in paragraph (6)—

22 (A) by striking subparagraph (B);

23 (B) by striking “and subparagraph (B)”
24 each place it appears;

25 (C) in subparagraph (E)—

- 1 (i) in the heading by striking “FUND-
2 ING” and all that follows through “Not
3 more than 12 percent” and inserting
4 “FUNDING FOR GRANTS TO STATES WITH
5 ALCOHOL-IGNITION INTERLOCK LAWS.—
6 Not more than 15 percent”; and
- 7 (ii) by striking clause (ii); and
- 8 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)
9 through (F) as subparagraphs (B) through (E),
10 respectively; and
- 11 (3) in paragraph (7)—
- 12 (A) by striking subparagraph (A); and
- 13 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (B)
14 through (E) as subparagraphs (A) through (D),
15 respectively.