## AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 5768

## Offered by M\_.

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1	SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
2	This Act may be cited as the "Violent Incident Clear-
3	ance and Technological Investigative Methods Act of
4	2022" or "VICTIM Act of 2022".
5	SEC. 2. FINDINGS.
6	Congress finds the following:
7	(1) Research indicates that law enforcement
8	agencies can increase clearance rates by improving—
9	(A) investigative processes;
10	(B) detective capacities; and
11	(C) organizational oversight and super-
12	vision of investigations.
13	(2) When a law enforcement agency expends
14	additional investigative effort, the law enforcement
15	agency improves its success in gaining cooperation of
16	key witnesses and increases the amount of forensic
17	evidence collected.

1	(3) Effective investigation of shootings can pre-
2	vent subsequent related violence by—
3	(A) deterring retaliation; and
4	(B) providing interventions to individuals
5	who may continue to commit crimes or become
6	victims of retaliatory violence.
7	(4) Law enforcement agencies that demonstrate
8	higher rates of clearance for homicides and non-fatal
9	shootings—
10	(A) have more structured oversight and
11	formal interactions between investigative units
12	and agency leadership;
13	(B) are more likely to have investigative
14	units that have collaborative relationships and
15	robust information sharing with other units of
16	the law enforcement agency;
17	(C) have investigative units that have spe-
18	cific goals and performance metrics for both the
19	unit and for investigators within the unit;
20	(D) have investigators who more frequently
21	respond to the initial crime scene shortly after
22	crimes have been reported to collect evidence
23	and interview witnesses;
24	(E) have investigators who either have spe-
25	cialized experience before joining investigative

1	units or are trained in investigations once they
2	join those units;
3	(F) often have standard operating proce-
4	dures for investigations that establish policies
5	and evidence-based best practices for con-
6	ducting and completing homicide investigations;
7	and
8	(G) have better relationships with the com-
9	munities they serve, even if no specific commu-
10	nity-oriented campaign or initiative exists be-
11	tween investigative units and community
12	groups.
13	(5) Criminal justice agencies should collaborate
14	with each other and share best practices for solving
15	homicides and non-fatal shootings.
16	(6) A comprehensive community engagement
17	strategy concerning gun violence is essential to im-
18	proving clearance rates for homicides and non-fatal
19	shootings.
20	SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM WITH RESPECT TO VIOLENT INCI-
21	DENT CLEARANCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL IN-
22	VESTIGATIVE METHODS.
23	(a) Definitions.—In this section:
24	(1) CLEARANCE BY ARREST.—The term "clear-
25	ance by arrest", with respect to an offense reported

1	to a law enforcement agency, means the law enforce-
2	ment agency—
3	(A) has—
4	(i) arrested not less than 1 person for
5	the offense;
6	(ii) charged the person described in
7	subparagraph (A) with the commission of
8	the offense; and
9	(iii) referred the person described in
10	subparagraph (A) for prosecution for the
11	offense; or
12	(B) has cited an individual under the age
13	of 18 to appear in juvenile court or before an-
14	other juvenile authority with respect to the of-
15	fense, regardless of whether a physical arrest
16	occurred.
17	(2) CLEARANCE BY EXCEPTION.—The term
18	"clearance by exception", with respect to an offense
19	reported to a law enforcement agency, means the
20	law enforcement agency—
21	(A) has identified not less than 1 person
22	suspected of the offense; and
23	(B) with respect to the suspect described
24	in subparagraph (A), has—
25	(i) gathered enough evidence to—

1	(I) support an arrest of the sus-
2	$\operatorname{pect};$
3	(II) make a charge against the
4	suspect; and
5	(III) refer the suspect for pros-
6	ecution;
7	(ii) identified the exact location of the
8	suspect so that the suspect could be taken
9	into custody immediately; and
10	(iii) encountered a circumstance out-
11	side the control of the law enforcement
12	agency that prohibits the agency from ar-
13	resting the suspect, charging the suspect,
14	or referring the suspect for prosecution, in-
15	cluding—
16	(I) the death of the suspect;
17	(II) the refusal of the victim to
18	cooperate with the prosecution after
19	the suspect has been identified; or
20	(III) the denial of extradition be-
21	cause the suspect committed an of-
22	fense in another jurisdiction and is
23	being prosecuted for that offense.

1	(3) CLEARANCE RATE.—The term "clearance
2	rate", with respect to a law enforcement agency,
3	means—
4	(A) the number of offenses cleared by the
5	law enforcement agency, including through
6	clearance by arrest and clearance by exception,
7	divided by
8	(B) the total number of offenses reported
9	to the law enforcement agency.
10	(4) Eligible enti-
11	ty" means a State, Tribal, or local law enforcement
12	agency or prosecuting office, or a group of Tribal
13	law enforcement agencies or Tribal prosecuting of-
14	fices.
15	(5) Grant recipient.—The term "grant re-
16	cipient' means a recipient of a grant under the Pro-
17	gram.
18	(6) Law enforcement agency.—The term
19	"law enforcement agency" means a public agency
20	charged with policing functions, including any com-
21	ponent bureau of the agency (such as a govern-
22	mental victim services program or village public
23	safety officer program), including an agency com-
24	posed of officers or persons referred to in subpara-

1	graph (B) or (C) of section 2(10) of the Indian Law
2	Enforcement Reform Act (25 U.S.C. 2801(10)).
3	(7) Program.—The term "Program" means
4	the grant program established under subsection
5	(b)(1).
6	(b) Grant Program.—
7	(1) In general.—Not later than 180 days
8	after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney
9	General shall establish a grant program within the
10	Office of Justice Programs under which the Attor-
11	ney General awards grants to eligible entities to es-
12	tablish, implement, and administer violent incident
13	clearance and technological investigative methods.
14	(2) Applications.—An eligible entity seeking
15	a grant under the Program shall submit to the At-
16	torney General an application at such time, in such
17	manner, and containing or accompanied by—
18	(A) such information as the Attorney Gen-
19	eral may reasonably require; and
20	(B) a description of each eligible project
21	under paragraph (4) that the grant will fund.
22	(3) Selection of grant recipients.—The
23	Attorney General, in selecting a recipient of a grant
24	under the Program, shall consider the specific plan
25	and activities proposed by the applicant to improve

1	clearance rates for homicides and non-fatal shoot-
2	ings.
3	(4) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—A grant recipient
4	shall use the grant for activities with the specific ob-
5	jective of improving clearance rates for homicides
6	and non-fatal shootings, including—
7	(A) ensuring the retention of detectives
8	who are assigned to investigate homicides and
9	non-fatal shootings as of the date of receipt of
10	the grant;
11	(B) hiring and training additional detec-
12	tives who will be dedicated to investigating
13	homicides and non-fatal shootings;
14	(C) developing policies, procedures, and
15	training to improve the ability of detectives to
16	effectively investigate and solve homicides and
17	non-fatal shootings, including implementing
18	best practices relating to—
19	(i) improving internal agency coopera-
20	tion, organizational oversight and account-
21	ability, and supervision of investigations;
22	(ii) developing specific goals and per-
23	formance metrics for both investigators
24	and investigative units;

1	(iii) establishing or improving rela-
2	tionships with the communities the agency
3	serves; and
4	(iv) collaboration with and among
5	other law enforcement agencies and crimi-
6	nal justice organizations;
7	(D) training personnel to address the
8	needs of victims and family members of victims
9	of homicides and non-fatal shootings or collabo-
10	rating with trained victim advocates and spe-
11	cialists to better meet victims' needs;
12	(E) acquiring, upgrading, or replacing in-
13	vestigative, evidence processing, or forensic test-
14	ing technology or equipment;
15	(F) development and implementation of
16	policies that safeguard civil rights and civil lib-
17	erties during the collection, processing, and fo-
18	rensic testing of evidence;
19	(G) hiring or training personnel for collec-
20	tion, processing, and forensic testing of evi-
21	dence;
22	(H) hiring and training of personnel to
23	analyze violent crime and the temporal and geo-
24	graphic trends among homicides and shootings

1	(I) retaining experts to conduct a detailed
2	analysis of homicides and shootings using Gun
3	Violence Problem Analysis (commonly known as
4	"GVPA") or a similar research methodology;
5	(J) ensuring victims have appropriate ac-
6	cess to emergency food, housing, clothing, trav-
7	el, and transportation;
8	(K) developing competitive and evidence-
9	based programs to improve homicide and non-
10	fatal shooting clearance rates;
11	(L) developing best practices for improving
12	access to and acceptance of victim services, in-
13	cluding victim services that promote medical
14	and psychological wellness, ongoing counseling,
15	legal advice, and financial compensation;
16	(M) training investigators and detectives in
17	trauma-informed interview techniques;
18	(N) establishing programs to support offi-
19	cers who experience stress or trauma as a result
20	of responding to or investigating shootings or
21	other violent crime incidents; or
22	(O) ensuring language and disability access
23	supports are provided to victims, survivors, and
24	their families so that victims can exercise their

1	rights and participate in the criminal justice
2	process.
3	(c) Federal Share.—
4	(1) In general.—The Federal share of the
5	cost of a project assisted with a grant under the
6	Program shall not exceed—
7	(A) 100 percent if the grant is awarded on
8	or before December 31, 2032; or
9	(B) subject to paragraph (2), 50 percent if
10	the grant is awarded after December 31, 2032.
11	(2) Waiver.—With respect to a grant awarded
12	under the Program after December 31, 2032, the
13	Attorney General may determine that the Federal
14	share of the cost of a project assisted with the grant
15	shall not exceed 100 percent.
16	(d) REPORT BY GRANT RECIPIENT.—Not later than
17	1 year after receiving a grant under the Program, and
18	each year thereafter, a grant recipient shall submit to the
19	Attorney General a report on the activities carried out
20	using the grant, including, if applicable—
21	(1) the number of homicide and non-fatal
22	shooting detectives hired by the grant recipient;
23	(2) the number of evidence processing personnel
24	hired by the grant recipient;
25	(3) a description of any training that is—

1	(A) provided to existing (as of the date on
2	which the grant was awarded) or newly hired
3	homicide and non-fatal shooting detectives; and
4	(B) designed to assist in the solving of
5	crimes and improve clearance rates;
6	(4) any new evidence processing technology or
7	equipment purchased or any upgrades made to exist-
8	ing (as of the date on which the grant was awarded)
9	evidence technology or equipment, and the associ-
10	ated cost;
11	(5) any assessments of evidence processing
12	technology or equipment purchased with grant funds
13	to determine whether such technology or equipment
14	satisfies the objectives of the use of the technology
15	or equipment in increasing clearance rates, and any
16	policies in place to govern the use of the technology
17	or equipment;
18	(6) the internal policies and oversight used to
19	ensure that any technology purchased through the
20	grant for the purposes of improving clearance rates
21	does not violate the civil rights and civil liberties of
22	individuals;
23	(7) data regarding clearance rates for homicides
24	and non-fatal shootings, including the rate of clear-
25	ances by arrest and clearances by exception, and

1	crime trends from within each jurisdiction in which
2	the grant recipient carried out activities supported
3	by the grant;
4	(8) whether the grant recipient has provided
5	grant funds to any victim services organizations, and
6	if so, which organizations;
7	(9) the demographic information for victims of
8	homicides and non-fatal shootings, and the length
9	and outcomes of each investigation, including wheth-
10	er the investigation was cleared by arrest or excep-
11	tion;
12	(10) the demographic information for each vic-
13	tim or family member of a victim who received vic-
14	tim-related services provided by the grant recipient;
15	and
16	(11) identification of the services most used by
17	victims and their families and identification of addi-
18	tional services needed.
19	(e) National Institute of Justice Evaluation
20	AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.—
21	(1) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years after
22	the date of enactment of this Act, and every 2 years
23	thereafter, the Director of the National Institute of
24	Justice shall conduct an evaluation of—

1	(A) the practices deployed by grant recipi-
2	ents to identify policies and procedures that
3	have successfully improved clearance rates for
4	homicides and non-fatal shootings; and
5	(B) the efficacy of any services provided to
6	victims and family members of victims of homi-
7	cides and non-fatal shootings.
8	(2) Report to congress.—Not later than 30
9	days after completion of an evaluation by the Na-
10	tional Institute of Justice under paragraph (1), the
11	Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report
12	including—
13	(A) the results of the evaluation; and
14	(B) information reported by each grant re-
15	cipient under subsection (d).
16	(f) Authorization of Appropriations.—
17	(1) In general.—There are authorized to be
18	appropriated to carry out this section \$100,000,000
19	for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2032.
20	(2) Percent for certain eligible enti-
21	TIES.—The Attorney General shall use 10 percent of
22	the amount made available under paragraph (1) for
23	a fiscal year to award grants under the Program to
24	Tribal law enforcement agencies or prosecuting of-
25	fices, or groups of such agencies or offices.

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to direct the Attorney General to establish a grant program to establish, implement, and administer the violent incident clearance and technology investigative method, and for other purposes.".

