

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 349

To provide funds to the National Center for Rural Law Enforcement, and  
for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 15, 2001

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. FEINGOLD, and Mr. JOHNSON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To provide funds to the National Center for Rural Law  
Enforcement, 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 “Rural Law Enforce-  
5       ment Assistance Act of 2001”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

1           (1) BOARD.—The term “Board” means the  
2 members of the Board of the Center elected in ac-  
3 cordance with the bylaws of the Center.

4           (2) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the  
5 National Center for Rural Law Enforcement, a non-  
6 profit corporation located in Little Rock, Arkansas.

7           (3) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The term “Execu-  
8 tive Director” means the Executive Director of the  
9 Center as appointed in accordance with the bylaws  
10 of the Center.

11           (4) INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—  
12 The term “institutions of higher education” has the  
13 meaning given the term in section 1201(a) of the  
14 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1141(a)).

15           (5) METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA.—The  
16 term “metropolitan statistical area” has the same  
17 meaning given the term by the Bureau of the Cen-  
18 sus of the Department of Commerce.

19           (6) RURAL AREA.—The term “rural area”  
20 means an area that is located outside of a metropoli-  
21 tan statistical area.

22           (7) RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.—The  
23 term “rural law enforcement agency” means a crimi-  
24 nal justice or law enforcement agency that serves a

1 county, parish, city, town, township, borough, or vil-  
 2 lage that is located in a rural area.

3 **SEC. 3. EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM GRANTS.**

4 (a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Attorney General shall  
 5 annually make a grant to the National Center for Rural  
 6 Law Enforcement through the Office of Justice Programs,  
 7 Bureau of Justice Affairs, if the Executive Director cer-  
 8 tifies in writing to the Attorney General that the Center—

9 (1) is incorporated in accordance with applica-  
 10 ble State law;

11 (2) is in compliance with the bylaws of the Cen-  
 12 ter;

13 (3) will use amounts made available under this  
 14 section in accordance with subsection (b); and

15 (4) will not support any political party or can-  
 16 didate for elected or appointed office.

17 (b) USES OF FUNDS.—

18 (1) REQUIRED USES OF FUNDS.—The Center  
 19 shall use amounts made available under this section  
 20 to develop an education and training program for  
 21 criminal justice or law enforcement agencies in rural  
 22 areas and the employees of those agencies, which  
 23 shall include—

24 (A) the development and delivery of man-  
 25 agement, forensic and computer education and

1 training, technical assistance, and practical re-  
2 search and evaluation for employees of rural  
3 law enforcement agencies (including tribal law  
4 enforcement agencies and railroad law enforce-  
5 ment agencies), including supervisory and exec-  
6 utive managers of those agencies;

7 (B) conducting research into the causes  
8 and prevention of criminal activity in rural  
9 areas, including the causes, assessment, evalua-  
10 tion, analysis, and prevention of criminal activ-  
11 ity;

12 (C) the development and dissemination of  
13 information designed to assist States and units  
14 of local government in rural areas throughout  
15 the United States;

16 (D) the establishment and maintenance of  
17 a resource and information center for the collec-  
18 tion, preparation, and dissemination of informa-  
19 tion regarding criminal justice and law enforce-  
20 ment in rural areas, including programs for the  
21 prevention of crime and recidivism; and

22 (E) the delivery of assistance, in a con-  
23 sulting capacity, to criminal justice agencies in  
24 the development, establishment, maintenance,  
25 and coordination of programs, facilities and

1 services, education, training, and research relat-  
2 ing to crime in rural areas.

3 (2) PERMISSIVE USES OF FUNDS.—The Center  
4 may use amounts made available under a grant  
5 under this section to enhance the education and  
6 training program developed under paragraph (1),  
7 through—

8 (A) educational opportunities for rural law  
9 enforcement agencies;

10 (B) the development, promotion, and vol-  
11 untary adoption of educational and training  
12 standards and accreditation certification pro-  
13 grams for rural law enforcement agencies and  
14 the employees of those agencies;

15 (C) grants to, and contracts with, State,  
16 and local governments, law enforcement agen-  
17 cies, public and private agencies, educational in-  
18 stitutions, and other organizations and individ-  
19 uals to carry out this paragraph;

20 (D) the formulation and recommendation  
21 of law enforcement policy, goals, and standards  
22 in rural areas applicable to criminal justice  
23 agencies, organizations, institutions, and per-  
24 sonnel; and

1           (E) coordination with institutions of higher  
2           education for the purpose of encouraging and  
3           delivering programs of study with those institu-  
4           tions for employees of rural law enforcement  
5           agencies.

6           (c) POWERS.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Ex-  
7           ecutive Director may—

8           (1) request the head of any Federal department  
9           or agency to detail, on a reimbursable basis, 1 or  
10          more employees of the Federal department or agency  
11          to the Center to assist the Center in carrying out  
12          subsection (b), and any such detail shall be without  
13          interruption or loss of civil service status or privi-  
14          lege;

15          (2) request the Administrator of the General  
16          Services Administration to provide the Center, on a  
17          reimbursable basis, the administrative support serv-  
18          ices necessary for the Center to carry out subsection  
19          (b); and

20          (3) procure temporary and intermittent services  
21          under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code,  
22          at rates of compensation established by the Board,  
23          but not to exceed the daily equivalent of the max-  
24          imum rate of pay payable for a position at level IV

1 of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title  
2 5, United States Code.

3 (d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The Executive Di-  
4 rector shall annually submit to the Attorney General a re-  
5 port, which shall include—

6 (1) a description of the education and training  
7 program developed under subsection (b);

8 (2) the number and demographic representation  
9 of individuals who attended programs sponsored by  
10 the Center;

11 (3) a description of the extent to which re-  
12 sources of other governmental agencies or private  
13 entities were used in carrying out subsection (b);  
14 and

15 (4) a description of the extent to which con-  
16 tracts with other public and private entities were  
17 used in carrying out subsection (b).

18 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
19 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this  
20 section—

21 (1) \$13,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and

22 (2) such sums as may be necessary for each of  
23 fiscal years 2003 through 2007.

24 **SEC. 4. REGIONAL CENTERS.**

25 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall establish 8  
2 regional centers, 1 in each geographic region listed  
3 in subsection (b) that will be under the supervision,  
4 direction, and control of the Center.

5           (2) REQUIREMENT.—The 8 regional centers  
6 shall be established 2 per year during 2002, 2003,  
7 2004, and 2005.

8           (b) REGIONS.—For purposes of subsection (a), the  
9 regions shall be as follows:

10           (1) REGION 1.—Region 1 shall be comprised of  
11 the following States—

- 12                   (A) Connecticut;
- 13                   (B) Maine;
- 14                   (C) Massachusetts;
- 15                   (D) New Hampshire;
- 16                   (E) New York;
- 17                   (F) Rhode Island; and
- 18                   (G) Vermont.

19           (2) REGION 2.—Region 2 shall be comprised of  
20 the following States—

- 21                   (A) Delaware;
- 22                   (B) Maryland;
- 23                   (C) New Jersey;
- 24                   (D) Ohio;
- 25                   (E) Pennsylvania;

1 (F) West Virginia; and

2 (G) Virginia.

3 (3) REGION 3.—Region 3 shall be comprised of  
4 the following States—

5 (A) Alabama;

6 (B) Florida;

7 (C) Georgia;

8 (D) Mississippi;

9 (E) North Carolina; and

10 (F) South Carolina.

11 (4) REGION 4.—Region 4 shall be comprised of  
12 the following States—

13 (A) Iowa;

14 (B) Minnesota;

15 (C) Nebraska;

16 (D) North Dakota;

17 (E) South Dakota; and

18 (F) Wisconsin.

19 (5) REGION 5.—Region 5 shall be comprised of  
20 the following States—

21 (A) Arkansas;

22 (B) Illinois;

23 (C) Indiana;

24 (D) Kentucky;

25 (E) Louisiana;

1 (F) Michigan;

2 (G) Missouri; and

3 (H) Tennessee.

4 (6) REGION 6.—Region 6 shall be comprised of  
5 the following States—

6 (A) Colorado;

7 (B) Kansas;

8 (C) New Mexico;

9 (D) Oklahoma; and

10 (E) Texas.

11 (7) REGION 7.—Region 7 shall be comprised of  
12 the following States—

13 (A) Arizona;

14 (B) California;

15 (C) Nevada; and

16 (D) Utah.

17 (8) REGION 8.—Region 8 shall be comprised of  
18 the following States—

19 (A) Alaska;

20 (B) Hawaii;

21 (C) Idaho;

22 (D) Montana;

23 (E) Oregon;

24 (F) Washington; and

25 (G) Wyoming.

1 (c) FUNDING.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—All funds for the regional  
3 centers shall be distributed by the Center which  
4 shall determine the budget base of each regional cen-  
5 ter based upon the budget request required to be  
6 submitted by each regional center under paragraph  
7 (2).

8 (2) BUDGET REQUEST.—Each regional center  
9 shall submit a budget request to the Center at such  
10 time and in such manner as the Executive Director  
11 may reasonably require.

12 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
13 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this  
14 section—

15 (1) \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2002;

16 (2) \$16,000,000 for fiscal year 2003;

17 (3) \$24,000,000 for fiscal year 2004;

18 (4) \$32,000,000 for fiscal year 2005; and

19 (5) such sums as may be necessary for each of  
20 fiscal years 2006 and 2007.

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