

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8451

To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant program to allocate resources for remote search and rescue activities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 20, 2022

Mr. STEWART (for himself and Mr. CASE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant program to allocate resources for remote search and rescue activities, 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 “Public Land Search
5 and Rescue Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR REMOTE SEARCH AND RES-**
7 **CUE ACTIVITIES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General
10 shall establish a program (in this Act referred to as the

1 “Program”) to allocate resources to remote search and
2 rescue activities conducted on lands under the jurisdiction
3 of the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the In-
4 terior.

5 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the Pro-
6 gram, the Attorney General may award a grant on a com-
7 petitive basis in accordance with this section.

8 (c) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Attorney General
9 may award a grant under the Program to a State or a
10 political subdivision thereof determined by the Attorney
11 General to have the authority and capability to carry out
12 a project described in subsection (d).

13 (d) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Grant funds awarded
14 under the Program may be used—

15 (1) by an eligible recipient to purchase equip-
16 ment and gear necessary for remote search and res-
17 cue activities;

18 (2) to reimburse an eligible recipient for the
19 cost of maintenance and repair of remote search and
20 rescue equipment owned or leased by an eligible re-
21 cipient; and

22 (3) by an eligible recipient to reimburse State
23 and local agencies responsible for remote search and
24 rescue activities.

25 (e) APPLICATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant
2 under the Program, an eligible recipient shall submit
3 to the Attorney General an application in such form,
4 at such time, and containing such information as the
5 Attorney General determines to be appropriate.

6 (2) ADDITIONAL APPLICATION.—An eligible re-
7 cipient may submit to the Attorney General an addi-
8 tional application in such form, at such time, and
9 containing such information as the Attorney General
10 determines to be appropriate for additional funding
11 for purposes under subsection (d)(2).

12 (f) PRIORITY.—The Attorney General shall prioritize
13 an application from an eligible recipient who serves an
14 area with a high ratio of visitors to residents.

15 (g) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of assist-
16 ance under the Program shall be 75 percent of the cost
17 of an eligible project.

18 (h) REMOTE SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVITY DE-
19 FINED.—In this section, the term “remote search and res-
20 cue activity” means an activity that utilizes, trains, or sup-
21 ports responders with specialized equipment to locate, pro-
22 vide assistance to, and remove to safety individuals who
23 are lost, injured, stranded, or entrapped in remote areas.

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