H.R 15



IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 25th, 2023

Mr. MORALES (for himself,) introduced the following bill;

A BILL

To provide financial assistance to the National Decertification Index (NDI) in order to support its efforts to maintain a centralized database of law enforcement officers who have been decertified, or had their certification to work as a law enforcement officer revoked, by a state or local licensing authority.

Be it resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Decertification Index Utilization Act of 2023"

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

- (a) POLICE OFFICER.— The term "Police officer" means any individual who is employed or commissioned by a law enforcement agency, and who is authorized to make arrests and carry a firearm.
- (b) DECERTIFICATION.— The term "Decertification" means the revocation of an individual's certification as a police officer, as determined by a state law enforcement certification board or other authorized entity.

(c) NATIONAL DECERTIFICATION INDEX.— The term "National Decertification Index" or "NDI" means the database maintained by the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training, which lists police officers who have been decertified by their respective states.

SEC. 3. SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL DECERTIFICATION INDEX

- (a) The Attorney General shall provide financial and technical support to the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training for the maintenance and updating of the National Decertification Index.
- (b) The Attorney General shall work with law enforcement agencies to ensure that they are reporting accurate and complete information to the National Decertification Index.
- (c) The National Decertification Index shall be accessible to law enforcement agencies and the public, subject to the provisions of this Act and any applicable privacy laws.
- (d) The technical assistance provided under this Act shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Assistance in the development and implementation of data security measures to protect the privacy of individuals.
 - (2) Assistance in the development and implementation of data management and analysis systems to facilitate the collection and analysis of data.
 - (3) Assistance in the development and implementation of training programs for law enforcement agencies on how to use the NDI and report decertification information.

SEC. 4. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The NDI shall submit an annual report to the Attorney General detailing the use of the financial assistance provided under this Act.
- (b) The annual report shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
 - (1) The number of law enforcement officers added to the NDI database during the year.
 - (2) The number of states and localities that provided decertification information to the NDI.
 - (3) A summary of any trends or patterns identified in the decertification data.

SEC. 5. PENALTIES

- (a) Any law enforcement agency that fails to provide the required information to the National Decertification Index, or that knowingly provides false or misleading information, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$10,000.
- (b) Any individual who accesses the National Decertification Index for an unlawful purpose, or who uses information obtained from the database for an unlawful purpose, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$5,000, or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 6. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NDI

- (a) The Attorney General shall provide financial assistance to the NDI in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 per year.
- (b) The financial assistance provided under this Act shall be used solely for the purpose of maintaining and updating the NDI database.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. ENACTMENT.

EFFECTIVE DATE.— The provisions of this Act shall come into force immediately upon passage.