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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to facilitate the installation, on certain infrastructure, of evidence-based suicide deterrents, including suicide prevention nets and barriers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BEYER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to facilitate the installation, on certain infrastructure, of evidence-based suicide deterrents, including suicide prevention nets and barriers, 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 “Barriers to Suicide
5 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
4 portation shall establish a program (in this section re-
5 ferred to as the “Program”) to facilitate the installation
6 of evidence-based suicide deterrents, including suicide pre-
7 vention nets and barriers, on or at a covered location.

8 (b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the Pro-
9 gram, the Secretary may make grants on a competitive
10 basis in accordance with this section.

11 (c) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary may
12 make a grant under the Program to—

- 13 (1) a State or a political subdivision of a State;
14 and
15 (2) any other entity the Secretary determines to
16 be eligible.

17 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
18 the Program, an entity described in subsection (c) shall
19 submit to the Secretary an application in such form, at
20 such time, and containing such information as the Sec-
21 retary determines appropriate.

22 (e) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—The Secretary may make
23 a grant under the Program only for a project that facili-
24 tates the installation on or at a covered location of—

- 25 (1) a suicide prevention net;
26 (2) a suicide prevention barrier; or

1 (3) any other evidence-based suicide deterrent
2 that is determined by the Secretary to be appro-
3 priate.

4 (f) PRIORITY.—In making a grant under the Pro-
5 gram, the Secretary shall give priority to a project located
6 in an area with a high rate of suicide, taking into consider-
7 ation the number of suicides and rate of suicides per cap-
8 ita in an area, or other priority characteristics, as deter-
9 mined by the Secretary.

10 (g) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost
11 of a project assisted with a grant under the Program may
12 not exceed 80 percent.

13 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 (1) COVERED LOCATION.—The term “covered
15 location” means—

16 (A) a bridge;

17 (B) building;

18 (C) parking garage;

19 (D) a highway-rail grade crossing; and

20 (E) a rail station.

21 (2) EVIDENCE-BASED SUICIDE DETERRENT.—

22 The term “evidence-based suicide deterrent” means
23 a suicide deterrent that demonstrates a rationale
24 based on high-quality research findings or positive
25 evaluation that such deterrent is likely to reduce or

1 prevent suicide, and includes ongoing efforts to ex-
2 amine the effects of such deterrent.

3 (3) STATE.—The term “State” means each
4 State of the United States, the District of Columbia,
5 each commonwealth, territory, or possession of the
6 United States, and each federally recognized Indian
7 Tribe.

8 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
9 authorized to be appropriated to carry out the Program
10 \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.

11 **SEC. 3. TITLE 23 AMENDMENT.**

12 Section 119(d)(2)(I) of title 23, United States Code,
13 is amended by striking “Highway System.” and adding
14 “Highway System, including installation of safety barriers
15 and nets on bridges of the National Highway System.”.

16 **SEC. 4. STUDY ON EFFECTIVENESS OF SUICIDE PREVEN-**
17 **TION NETS AND BARRIERS FOR STRUCTURES**
18 **OTHER THAN BRIDGES.**

19 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United
20 States shall conduct a study to identify—

21 (1) the types of structures, other than bridges,
22 that attract a high number of individuals attempting
23 suicide-by-jumping;

24 (2) the characteristics that distinguish struc-
25 tures identified under paragraph (1) from similar

1 structures that do not attract a high number of indi-
2 viduals attempting suicide-by-jumping;

3 (3) the types of nets or barriers, including man-
4 ufactured and natural barriers, that are effective at
5 reducing suicide-by-jumping with respect to the
6 structures identified under paragraph (1);

7 (4) methods of reducing suicide-by-jumping
8 with respect to the structures identified under para-
9 graph (1) other than nets and barriers;

10 (5) quantitative measures of the effectiveness of
11 the nets and barriers identified under paragraph (3);

12 (6) quantitative measures of the effectiveness of
13 the additional methods identified under paragraph
14 (4);

15 (7) the entities that typically install the nets
16 and barriers identified under paragraph (3); and

17 (8) the costs of the nets and barriers identified
18 under paragraph (3).

19 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
20 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall
21 submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infra-
22 structure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce
23 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
24 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Com-
25 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the

- 1 Senate a report on the results of the study conducted
- 2 under subsection (a).