

119TH CONGRESS

2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To establish uniform Federal standards for law-enforcement accountability and transparency; require comprehensive reporting of serious uses of force and law-enforcement misconduct; establish a National Law Enforcement Accountability and Decertification System; preserve body-worn-camera and other material evidence; condition certain Federal law-enforcement assistance upon compliance with constitutional policing and accountability requirements; strengthen remedies for violations of federally protected civil rights; protect complainants, witnesses, and whistleblowers from retaliation; establish minimum standards for intervention, supervision, investigation, and discipline; provide meaningful procedural and due-process protections to accused law-enforcement officers; and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr./Ms. _____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to such other committees as may have jurisdiction over provisions of this Act.

A BILL

To establish comprehensive national standards concerning police misconduct, civil-rights accountability, transparency, evidence preservation, officer certification and decertification, Federal funding, and procedural fairness.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “**Federal Police Misconduct Accountability and Civil Rights Act of 2026.**”

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are—

- (1) to protect the constitutional and civil rights of persons interacting with law-enforcement officers;
- (2) to improve public confidence in law enforcement through transparency, professionalism, accountability, and reliable national data;
- (3) to establish uniform minimum standards for reporting serious uses of force and substantiated law-enforcement misconduct;
- (4) to prevent officers who have been decertified, terminated for serious misconduct, or found responsible for serious violations of civil rights from concealing such records when seeking law-enforcement employment in another jurisdiction;
- (5) to ensure that body-worn-camera footage, dashboard-camera footage, dispatch recordings, photographs, electronic communications, and other material evidence are properly preserved;
- (6) to provide Federal authorities with reliable information concerning patterns or practices of unconstitutional law-enforcement conduct;
- (7) to establish minimum accountability requirements for State, local, Tribal, territorial, and other law-enforcement agencies receiving covered Federal assistance;
- (8) to provide meaningful remedies to persons whose Federal constitutional or statutory rights have been violated;
- (9) to protect law-enforcement officers against false accusations, arbitrary discipline, erroneous database entries, and deprivation of employment or certification without appropriate procedural safeguards;
- (10) to encourage lawful, professional, transparent, and effective policing;
- (11) to protect officers who intervene against unlawful conduct or report misconduct in good faith; and
- (12) to strengthen cooperation among Federal, State, Tribal, territorial, and local authorities concerning law-enforcement accountability.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) BODY-WORN CAMERA.— The term “body-worn camera” means an electronic recording device worn by a law-enforcement officer that is capable of recording audio, video, or audiovisual information concerning interactions between an officer and members of the public.

(2) COVERED LAW-ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.— The term means any Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial, or District of Columbia governmental agency authorized by law to employ law-enforcement officers.

(3) LAW-ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.— The term means an employee or officer of a governmental authority who is authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, detention, or incarceration of any person for an alleged violation of law and who possesses statutory powers of arrest, detention, or use of force.

(4) SERIOUS USE OF FORCE.— The term includes—

(A) any use of force resulting in death;

(B) any use of force resulting in serious bodily injury;

(C) discharge of a firearm at or in the direction of a person;

(D) any intentional firearm discharge during an enforcement encounter other than an authorized training exercise;

(E) use of a neck restraint, carotid restraint, or substantially similar restraint;

(F) use of an electronic-control weapon resulting in death or serious bodily injury;

(G) use of a law-enforcement canine resulting in serious bodily injury;

(H) intentional striking of a person's head or neck with an impact weapon;

(I) force against a restrained or handcuffed individual resulting in serious bodily injury; and

(J) such other force as the Attorney General determines by regulation presents a substantial risk of death or serious bodily injury.

(5) SERIOUS MISCONDUCT.— The term means substantiated conduct involving—

(A) excessive or unlawful force;

(B) intentional unlawful arrest, detention, search, or seizure;

- (C) fabrication, falsification, concealment, destruction, or material alteration of evidence;
- (D) perjury or material dishonesty concerning official duties;
- (E) unlawful discrimination in the performance of official duties;
- (F) sexual misconduct committed under color of law;
- (G) retaliation against a complainant, witness, whistleblower, or officer reporting misconduct;
- (H) intentional failure to intervene when legally required;
- (I) corruption, bribery, extortion, or theft committed under color of law;
- (J) intentional interference with a lawful misconduct investigation; or
- (K) conduct resulting in revocation or suspension of a law-enforcement certification.

(6) SUBSTANTIATED.— The term means a final administrative finding, after any required notice and opportunity to contest the allegation, determining under the applicable evidentiary standard that misconduct occurred.

(7) EXONERATED.— The term means that the conduct alleged occurred but was determined to be lawful and consistent with applicable policy.

(8) UNFOUNDED.— The term means that an investigation determined that the alleged conduct did not occur or was not committed by the accused officer.

(9) PENDING.— The term means an allegation for which no final determination has been entered.

(10) DECERTIFICATION.— The term means revocation, suspension, cancellation, or other withdrawal of governmental authority for an individual to serve as a law-enforcement officer.

TITLE I—NATIONAL LAW-ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY DATA

SEC. 101. NATIONAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

Not later than 1 year after enactment, the Attorney General shall establish uniform national reporting standards for covered law-enforcement agencies.

Each covered agency receiving covered Federal law-enforcement funds shall report—

- (1) every serious use of force;
- (2) every death occurring during an arrest or other law-enforcement encounter;
- (3) every death occurring in agency custody;
- (4) every officer-involved shooting;
- (5) every substantiated finding of serious misconduct;
- (6) every termination, resignation, retirement, or separation occurring while an investigation of alleged serious misconduct is pending, with the status of the allegation clearly identified;
- (7) every suspension or revocation of law-enforcement certification;
- (8) every reinstatement following decertification or discipline; and
- (9) such additional information as is reasonably necessary to administer this Act.

SEC. 102. USE-OF-FORCE INFORMATION.

For each reportable use-of-force incident, agencies shall report, to the extent known—

- (1) date, approximate time, and location;
- (2) agency involved;
- (3) type of force used;
- (4) whether a weapon was possessed or allegedly possessed by the subject;
- (5) whether the weapon was used or displayed;
- (6) whether officers provided medical assistance;
- (7) injuries sustained by officers and civilians;
- (8) whether body-worn-camera or other audiovisual evidence exists;
- (9) whether the incident resulted in an administrative or criminal investigation;
- (10) whether the officer was acting pursuant to a warrant;
- (11) demographic information concerning involved persons when lawfully collected; and

(12) the ultimate disposition of any administrative investigation.

Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to establish wrongdoing merely because force was used or an investigation was opened.

SEC. 103. PUBLIC NATIONAL STATISTICS.

The Attorney General shall publish aggregated national statistics annually.

Public data shall permit analysis by—

- (A) State;
- (B) agency;
- (C) type of force;
- (D) disposition;
- (E) demographic categories when statistically appropriate;
- (F) whether force resulted in death or serious bodily injury; and
- (G) other relevant categories established by regulation.

Personally identifiable information concerning victims, witnesses, minors, or officers shall not be publicly released except as otherwise required by law.

TITLE II—NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY AND DECERTIFICATION SYSTEM

SEC. 201. ESTABLISHMENT.

The Attorney General shall establish and maintain a secure **National Law Enforcement Accountability and Decertification System**.

The system shall facilitate lawful information sharing among authorized law-enforcement agencies and certification authorities.

SEC. 202. RECORDS INCLUDED.

The system shall contain—

- (1) final decertification decisions;
- (2) suspensions of certification;
- (3) reinstatements;
- (4) final substantiated findings of serious misconduct;
- (5) terminations based upon substantiated serious misconduct;
- (6) resignations or retirements occurring during a pending serious-misconduct investigation, provided that the database clearly identifies the matter as pending and not as a finding of guilt;
- (7) final judicial findings concerning serious civil-rights violations committed under color of law; and
- (8) corrections, reversals, expungements, or other subsequent dispositions.

SEC. 203. PROHIBITION ON TREATING ALLEGATIONS AS FINDINGS.

A complaint, accusation, investigation, lawsuit, or arrest that has not resulted in a final substantiated finding shall not be identified as established misconduct.

Pending allegations shall be conspicuously labeled **“PENDING—NO FINAL DETERMINATION.”**

Unsubstantiated, unfounded, or exonerated allegations shall not be presented as substantiated misconduct.

SEC. 204. OFFICER NOTICE.

Before a final adverse misconduct entry is submitted to the national system, the officer shall receive—

- (1) written notice of the proposed entry;
- (2) a description of the underlying determination;
- (3) identification of the agency submitting the record;

- (4) instructions for challenging factual inaccuracies; and
- (5) notice of applicable appeal rights.

SEC. 205. RIGHT TO CORRECT ERRONEOUS INFORMATION.

An officer may challenge information that is—

- (A) factually inaccurate;
- (B) incomplete in a materially misleading manner;
- (C) legally required to have been removed;
- (D) based upon a reversed determination; or
- (E) attributed to the wrong individual.

The Attorney General shall establish an expedited procedure for correcting clearly erroneous records.

SEC. 206. HIRING REQUIREMENTS.

Before appointing an individual as a law-enforcement officer, a covered agency receiving Federal law-enforcement assistance shall make a good-faith inquiry into the applicant's—

- (1) certification status;
- (2) decertification history;
- (3) qualifying substantiated misconduct history; and
- (4) prior law-enforcement employment.

No provision of this section automatically prohibits employment solely because an allegation is pending.

TITLE III—BODY-WORN CAMERAS AND EVIDENCE PRESERVATION

SEC. 301. MINIMUM PRESERVATION REQUIREMENTS.

A covered agency receiving Federal funds shall establish written procedures governing preservation of body-worn-camera evidence.

Recordings involving—

- (1) death;
 - (2) serious bodily injury;
 - (3) discharge of a firearm at a person;
 - (4) alleged excessive force;
 - (5) alleged sexual misconduct;
 - (6) a civil-rights complaint;
 - (7) an arrest that becomes the subject of litigation; or
 - (8) any incident reasonably expected to result in administrative, civil, or criminal proceedings,
- shall be preserved for not less than 5 years or until final disposition of all related proceedings, whichever is later.

SEC. 302. PROHIBITION ON DESTRUCTION OR ALTERATION.

No officer, employee, contractor, or governmental official may knowingly and intentionally destroy, materially alter, conceal, overwrite, or disable preserved audiovisual evidence with the purpose of obstructing an investigation or proceeding.

Nothing in this section criminalizes accidental technological failure, ordinary good-faith operation of equipment, or conduct lacking the required intent.

SEC. 303. AUDIT TRAIL.

Covered agencies shall maintain technological audit information sufficient, where technically practicable, to identify—

- (1) creation of a recording;
- (2) access;

- (3) copying;
- (4) modification;
- (5) deletion;
- (6) export; and
- (7) chain of custody.

SEC. 304. PROTECTION OF PRIVACY.

The Attorney General shall promulgate standards protecting recordings involving—

- (A) minors;
- (B) victims of sexual assault;
- (C) medical treatment;
- (D) private residences;
- (E) confidential informants;
- (F) undercover personnel;
- (G) witnesses facing credible threats; and
- (H) information whose disclosure would materially jeopardize an active investigation.

Nothing in this Act shall require indiscriminate public release of body-camera footage.

SEC. 305. ACCESS BY PERSONS DEPICTED.

Subject to legitimate privacy, safety, and investigative limitations, an individual depicted in a recording, or the individual's authorized representative, shall have a reasonable mechanism for requesting access to the portion materially concerning that individual.

TITLE IV—FEDERAL FUNDING AND COMPLIANCE

SEC. 401. CONDITIONS ON CERTAIN FEDERAL LAW-ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE.

Beginning 2 years after enactment, the Attorney General may condition specified discretionary Federal law-enforcement grants upon substantial compliance with this Act.

SEC. 402. REQUIRED COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.

Covered agencies subject to section 401 shall—

- (1) submit required use-of-force information;
- (2) participate in applicable decertification information sharing;
- (3) maintain evidence-preservation policies;
- (4) establish a misconduct complaint process;
- (5) prohibit retaliation;
- (6) provide appropriate due process to accused officers;
- (7) maintain procedures requiring officers to intervene against clearly unlawful force when intervention can reasonably be accomplished without creating an unreasonable risk of death or serious bodily injury;
- (8) maintain supervisory review procedures; and
- (9) certify compliance annually.

SEC. 403. CORRECTIVE ACTION BEFORE LOSS OF FUNDS.

Except in cases of intentional fraud, obstruction, repeated willful noncompliance, or emergency circumstances, an agency shall receive—

- (1) written notice of noncompliance;
- (2) identification of corrective measures;
- (3) reasonable technical assistance; and
- (4) not fewer than 90 days to develop a corrective-action plan

before covered funding is suspended.

SEC. 404. PROTECTION OF PUBLIC-SAFETY SERVICES.

In imposing a funding remedy, the Attorney General shall, to the maximum extent practicable, avoid reductions that would foreseeably create an immediate and substantial danger to public safety.

Funds withheld from a noncompliant agency may be redirected toward training, compliance systems, body-worn-camera infrastructure, independent monitoring, community safety programs, or other remedial purposes.

TITLE V—CIVIL-RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT

SEC. 501. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AUTHORITY.

Nothing in this Act shall limit the authority of the Attorney General under section 210401 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, codified at section 12601 of title 34, United States Code, or under any other Federal civil-rights law.

SEC. 502. PATTERN-OR-PRACTICE INFORMATION.

National reporting information established under this Act may be considered by the Department of Justice in determining whether reasonable cause exists to investigate an alleged pattern or practice of conduct depriving persons of rights protected by the Constitution or Federal law.

Statistical disparities alone shall not automatically establish liability.

SEC. 503. ADMINISTRATIVE SUBPOENAS.

In a formally opened investigation under section 12601 of title 34, United States Code, the Attorney General may issue an administrative subpoena for records reasonably relevant to determining whether a pattern or practice of unlawful conduct exists.

A recipient may petition a United States district court to modify or quash a subpoena that is unreasonable, oppressive, privileged, or insufficiently related to the investigation.

TITLE VI—CIVIL REMEDIES

SEC. 601. PRESERVATION OF EXISTING RIGHTS.

Nothing in this Act shall diminish any right or remedy otherwise available under—

- (1) section 1983 of title 42, United States Code;
- (2) the Constitution;
- (3) title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- (4) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;
- (5) the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- (6) any other Federal civil-rights statute; or
- (7) applicable State law.

SEC. 602. PRIVATE CIVIL ACTION FOR INTENTIONAL EVIDENCE INTERFERENCE.

A person materially injured by the intentional destruction, falsification, concealment, or material alteration of evidence in violation of section 302 may bring a civil action against the individual who intentionally committed the violation.

The plaintiff shall prove the violation by a preponderance of the evidence.

A prevailing plaintiff may recover—

- (A) compensatory damages;
- (B) appropriate declaratory or injunctive relief; and
- (C) reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

Punitive damages may be awarded against an individual defendant only when permitted under otherwise applicable Federal law.

SEC. 603. NO LIABILITY BASED SOLELY ON EMPLOYMENT.

No officer shall incur personal civil liability under this Act solely because the officer—

- (1) was present at an incident;
 - (2) belonged to the same agency;
 - (3) supervised an officer without knowledge or legally sufficient causal responsibility for the violation; or
 - (4) participated in a lawful use of force.
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TITLE VII—DUTY TO INTERVENE AND DUTY TO RENDER AID

SEC. 701. DUTY TO INTERVENE.

A covered agency receiving Federal law-enforcement assistance shall maintain a policy requiring an officer who directly observes another officer using force that is clearly unlawful under the circumstances to intervene when—

- (1) the officer has a reasonable opportunity to intervene; and
- (2) intervention can reasonably be performed without creating an unreasonable risk of death or serious bodily injury to the officer or another person.

SEC. 702. REPORTING.

An officer who observes serious misconduct shall report such misconduct through an authorized supervisory, internal-affairs, inspector-general, or other designated reporting channel.

SEC. 703. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.

Following a use of force resulting in apparent serious bodily injury, officers shall request or provide appropriate medical assistance as soon as reasonably practicable, consistent with scene safety and the officer's training.

TITLE VIII—ANTI-RETALIATION AND WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION

SEC. 801. PROHIBITED RETALIATION.

A covered agency may not retaliate against an officer, employee, complainant, or witness because that individual, in good faith—

- (1) reported suspected misconduct;
- (2) intervened to prevent unlawful force;
- (3) cooperated with an investigation;
- (4) testified truthfully;
- (5) preserved evidence; or
- (6) refused an unlawful order.

SEC. 802. FALSE STATEMENTS NOT PROTECTED.

This title does not protect an individual who knowingly makes a materially false statement with intent to deceive an investigation.

An allegation that is not substantiated shall not, by itself, establish that the complainant acted dishonestly or in bad faith.

TITLE IX—PROCEDURAL RIGHTS OF ACCUSED OFFICERS

SEC. 901. FUNDAMENTAL FAIRNESS.

No covered agency shall treat an allegation of misconduct as proof of misconduct.

Officers accused of serious misconduct shall be afforded fair and impartial procedures consistent with the Constitution, applicable collective-bargaining agreements, Federal and State law, and this Act.

SEC. 902. NOTICE.

Before final disciplinary action for serious misconduct, an officer shall receive reasonable written notice describing—

- (1) the alleged misconduct;
- (2) the policy or law allegedly violated;
- (3) the material factual basis of the allegation; and
- (4) the possible disciplinary consequences.

SEC. 903. OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND.

An accused officer shall have a meaningful opportunity to respond to material allegations before final disciplinary action, except where immediate temporary action is reasonably necessary to protect public safety, preserve evidence, or protect the integrity of an investigation.

SEC. 904. REPRESENTATION.

Nothing in this Act shall eliminate a right to counsel, union representation, or other representation otherwise provided by law or collective-bargaining agreement.

SEC. 905. IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION.

Agencies shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that serious misconduct investigations are conducted by personnel without a material personal conflict of interest.

SEC. 906. PRESUMPTION REGARDING PENDING ALLEGATIONS.

No Federal database established under this Act may describe an officer as having committed misconduct solely because an allegation is pending.

SEC. 907. FINAL DISPOSITION.

When a finding is reversed, vacated, expunged, or materially modified, the agency responsible for the record shall transmit the updated disposition to the national system without unreasonable delay.

TITLE X—COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

SEC. 1001. ACCESSIBLE COMPLAINT SYSTEM.

Covered agencies receiving Federal law-enforcement assistance shall maintain accessible procedures permitting members of the public to submit misconduct complaints.

Agencies may not require a complainant to waive constitutional rights as a condition of submitting a complaint.

SEC. 1002. ANONYMOUS COMPLAINTS.

Agencies may accept anonymous complaints.

An anonymous complaint may justify investigation but shall not, standing alone and without reliable supporting evidence, constitute sufficient evidence for a final finding of misconduct.

SEC. 1003. LANGUAGE ACCESS.

To the extent reasonably practicable, agencies shall provide complaint information in languages commonly used within the jurisdiction.

SEC. 1004. COMPLAINT TRACKING.

Each covered agency shall maintain records sufficient to identify—

- (1) nature of complaint;
- (2) date received;
- (3) investigative status;
- (4) disposition; and
- (5) disciplinary or corrective action, if any.

TITLE XI—INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF DEATHS AND OTHER CRITICAL INCIDENTS

SEC. 1101. INDEPENDENCE STANDARD.

As a condition of specified Federal grants, each State shall establish procedures designed to ensure independent review of deaths resulting from law-enforcement use of force.

Such procedures may include investigation by—

- (1) an independent State investigative agency;
- (2) an agency not involved in the incident;
- (3) the State attorney general;
- (4) an independent prosecutor where authorized by State law; or
- (5) another entity satisfying standards established by the Attorney General.

SEC. 1102. PUBLIC REPORT.

Where an investigation of a law-enforcement-caused death does not result in criminal charges, the responsible prosecutorial authority should, to the extent permitted by law and consistent with privacy and investigative interests, issue a public explanation of the disposition.

Nothing in this provision shall require disclosure of grand-jury information protected by law.

TITLE XII—EARLY INTERVENTION AND SUPERVISORY SYSTEMS

SEC. 1201. EARLY INTERVENTION SYSTEMS.

Large covered agencies receiving designated Federal grants shall maintain an early-intervention system capable of identifying patterns that may warrant supervisory review, training, wellness intervention, or investigation.

Indicators may include—

- (1) repeated uses of force;
- (2) preventable vehicle pursuits or collisions;
- (3) repeated complaints;
- (4) disciplinary findings;
- (5) repeated failures to activate required recording equipment; and
- (6) other objective indicators established by agency policy.

SEC. 1202. NO AUTOMATIC DISCIPLINE.

An early-intervention alert shall not itself constitute a disciplinary finding.

Such systems shall be used as supervisory tools unless independent evidence establishes misconduct.

TITLE XIII—TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

SEC. 1301. FEDERAL TRAINING GRANTS.

The Attorney General may provide grants for training concerning—

- (1) constitutional policing;
- (2) lawful use of force;
- (3) de-escalation;
- (4) crisis response;
- (5) duty to intervene;

- (6) evidence preservation;
 - (7) body-worn-camera procedures;
 - (8) civil-rights protections;
 - (9) First Amendment rights;
 - (10) lawful searches and seizures;
 - (11) supervisory responsibility;
 - (12) misconduct investigation;
 - (13) procedural fairness;
 - (14) medical response following use of force; and
 - (15) protection against discriminatory policing.
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TITLE XIV—AUDITS AND OVERSIGHT

SEC. 1401. OFFICE OF LAW-ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY DATA.

The Attorney General shall designate an office responsible for administration, security, auditing, and accuracy of the national reporting and accountability systems established under this Act.

SEC. 1402. DATA-QUALITY AUDITS.

The Attorney General shall periodically audit participating agencies to determine whether—

- (1) required incidents are being reported;
- (2) information is accurate;
- (3) dispositions are being updated;
- (4) records are improperly omitted;
- (5) pending allegations are improperly represented as final findings; or

(6) expunged or reversed findings remain improperly identified.

SEC. 1403. INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.

The Inspector General of the Department of Justice may review administration of programs established under this Act.

TITLE XV—FEDERAL LAW-ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

SEC. 1501. APPLICATION TO FEDERAL OFFICERS.

The Attorney General, Secretary of Homeland Security, Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of the Interior, and heads of other Federal agencies employing law-enforcement officers shall establish policies substantially consistent with applicable provisions of this Act.

SEC. 1502. FEDERAL MISCONDUCT RECORDS.

Final substantiated findings of serious misconduct involving Federal law-enforcement officers shall be included in the national accountability system subject to the procedural protections established by this Act and other applicable Federal personnel laws.

TITLE XVI—PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY AND PRIVACY

SEC. 1601. PUBLIC REPORTING PORTAL.

The Attorney General shall maintain a publicly accessible online portal providing national and agency-level statistical information required by this Act.

SEC. 1602. INFORMATION EXCLUDED FROM PUBLIC DATABASE.

The public portal shall not disclose—

- (1) Social Security numbers;
- (2) home addresses;
- (3) personal telephone numbers;
- (4) personal email addresses;
- (5) medical records;
- (6) identities of protected witnesses;
- (7) identities of minors where disclosure is restricted by law;
- (8) information compromising undercover operations;
- (9) information creating a specific and articulable threat to an individual; or
- (10) information prohibited from disclosure by Federal law.

SEC. 1603. RESEARCH ACCESS.

The Attorney General may establish controlled access to de-identified information for legitimate academic, governmental, or public-policy research consistent with Federal privacy requirements.

TITLE XVII—ENFORCEMENT AGAINST FALSE REPORTING AND DATABASE ABUSE

SEC. 1701. KNOWINGLY FALSE GOVERNMENT SUBMISSIONS.

Any government employee who knowingly and intentionally submits materially false information to the national accountability system for the purpose of causing an unlawful adverse employment or certification action shall be subject to appropriate administrative discipline and any otherwise applicable criminal or civil law.

SEC. 1702. UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS.

Knowingly accessing the national system for an unauthorized purpose shall constitute grounds for termination of access and appropriate administrative action.

SEC. 1703. AUDIT LOGS.

Every search, modification, submission, or deletion within the restricted national system shall be electronically logged where technologically practicable.

TITLE XVIII—COMMUNITY AND OFFICER ADVISORY COUNCIL

SEC. 1801. ESTABLISHMENT.

The Attorney General shall establish a National Law Enforcement Accountability Advisory Council.

Membership shall include representatives of—

- (1) civil-rights organizations;
- (2) law-enforcement officers;
- (3) law-enforcement executives;
- (4) police labor organizations;
- (5) victims of civil-rights violations or their advocates;
- (6) prosecutors;
- (7) public defenders and civil-rights attorneys;

- (8) State certification authorities;
- (9) Tribal law-enforcement authorities;
- (10) academic experts;
- (11) data and privacy experts; and
- (12) community organizations.

SEC. 1802. DUTIES.

The Council shall advise the Attorney General concerning implementation, data integrity, privacy, procedural fairness, officer safety, constitutional policing, and effectiveness of programs established under this Act.

TITLE XIX—STATE AND LOCAL INNOVATION

SEC. 1901. MINIMUM FEDERAL FLOOR.

Nothing in this Act shall prevent a State, Tribe, territory, municipality, or law-enforcement agency from adopting accountability requirements providing greater protection for civil rights than the minimum requirements established by this Act, provided such requirements are consistent with the Constitution and Federal law.

SEC. 1902. NO FEDERALIZATION OF ORDINARY POLICING.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to transfer general State or local police powers to the Federal Government.

TITLE XX—REPORTS TO CONGRESS

SEC. 2001. ANNUAL REPORT.

Not later than 18 months after enactment and annually thereafter, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report containing—

- (1) the number of reported serious uses of force;
 - (2) the number of reported deaths;
 - (3) the number and categories of substantiated serious-misconduct findings;
 - (4) decertification statistics;
 - (5) compliance rates;
 - (6) funding enforcement actions;
 - (7) database corrections and appeals;
 - (8) significant data-quality problems;
 - (9) evidence-preservation compliance;
 - (10) complaints regarding database inaccuracies; and
 - (11) recommendations for legislative or administrative improvements.
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TITLE XXI—RULEMAKING

SEC. 2101. REGULATIONS.

Not later than 18 months after enactment, the Attorney General shall promulgate regulations necessary to carry out this Act.

Before issuing final regulations, the Attorney General shall provide an opportunity for public comment consistent with applicable Federal administrative law.

The Attorney General shall consult with—

- (1) State attorneys general;
- (2) State law-enforcement certification authorities;

- (3) local governments;
 - (4) Tribal governments;
 - (5) law-enforcement organizations;
 - (6) civil-rights organizations;
 - (7) police labor organizations;
 - (8) privacy experts;
 - (9) victims' advocates; and
 - (10) other relevant stakeholders.
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TITLE XXII—RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS

SEC. 2201. CIVIL-RIGHTS LAWS.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to narrow any protection available under the Constitution or Federal civil-rights laws.

SEC. 2202. COLLECTIVE-BARGAINING RIGHTS.

Except where a collective-bargaining provision directly conflicts with an express requirement of Federal law, nothing in this Act shall be construed to eliminate rights lawfully established under a collective-bargaining agreement.

SEC. 2203. STATE LAW.

Nothing in this Act preempts a State law providing greater civil-rights, transparency, accountability, privacy, or due-process protections unless compliance with both laws is impossible.

TITLE XXIII—NO QUOTAS OR PRESUMPTIONS OF MISCONDUCT

SEC. 2301. PROHIBITION ON ENFORCEMENT QUOTAS.

Nothing in this Act authorizes the Federal Government to require an agency to—

- (1) discipline a predetermined number of officers;
- (2) sustain a predetermined percentage of complaints;
- (3) decertify a predetermined number of officers; or
- (4) establish numerical misconduct quotas.

SEC. 2302. INDIVIDUALIZED DETERMINATIONS.

Disciplinary and decertification decisions shall be based upon the facts and circumstances of the individual case and the applicable law.

TITLE XXIV—PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATORY LAW ENFORCEMENT

SEC. 2401. FEDERAL FUNDING COMPLIANCE.

Recipients of covered Federal law-enforcement assistance shall comply with applicable Federal laws prohibiting discrimination.

Nothing in this title creates a presumption that a statistical disparity, standing alone, proves intentional discrimination.

SEC. 2402. DATA ANALYSIS.

The Attorney General may analyze national data to identify patterns warranting further review, but any enforcement determination shall be made under the evidentiary standards required by applicable law.

TITLE XXV—IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

SEC. 2501. AUTHORIZATION.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to assist eligible agencies in complying with this Act.

SEC. 2502. PERMITTED USES.

Grant funds may be used for—

- (1) body-worn cameras;
- (2) secure digital evidence storage;
- (3) data-reporting systems;
- (4) officer training;
- (5) accreditation;
- (6) independent misconduct investigation systems;
- (7) early-intervention systems;
- (8) privacy and cybersecurity safeguards;
- (9) certification information-sharing infrastructure;
- (10) personnel necessary for compliance; and
- (11) technical assistance.

Priority may be provided to small, rural, Tribal, and financially constrained agencies that demonstrate a need for implementation assistance.

TITLE XXVI—SEVERABILITY

SEC. 2601. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act, an amendment made by this Act, or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the remainder of this Act and the application of its provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

TITLE XXVII—EFFECTIVE DATES

SEC. 2701. GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment.

SEC. 2702. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Mandatory national reporting requirements shall take effect 18 months after enactment.

SEC. 2703. FUNDING CONDITIONS.

Federal funding conditions shall take effect 24 months after enactment, allowing jurisdictions reasonable time to establish compliant systems.

SEC. 2704. TRANSITION PERIOD.

The Attorney General may provide limited extensions to agencies demonstrating—

- (1) substantial good-faith progress toward compliance;
- (2) technological or financial barriers outside the agency's reasonable control; and
- (3) a specific corrective-action timetable.

No extension under this section may excuse intentional concealment of reportable misconduct or intentional destruction of evidence.

TITLE XXVIII—RULE OF CONSTRUCTION

SEC. 2801. CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed—

- (1) to diminish any right protected by the Constitution of the United States;
- (2) to create a presumption that a law-enforcement officer accused of misconduct committed misconduct;
- (3) to prevent the lawful investigation, discipline, decertification, prosecution, or civil liability of an officer whose conduct violates law;
- (4) to prevent an officer from asserting any defense available under applicable law;
- (5) to interfere with legitimate law-enforcement operations except as expressly provided by this Act; or
- (6) to authorize discrimination against any individual on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, or other status protected under Federal law.

SEC. 2802. CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.

It is the intent of Congress that accountability and procedural fairness operate together.

Effective law enforcement requires public confidence that constitutional violations and serious misconduct will be identified, investigated, and appropriately addressed.

Effective law enforcement also requires confidence among officers that accusations will be investigated objectively, that allegations will not be treated as established facts without appropriate process, and that officers acting lawfully and in good faith will receive fair treatment.

Accordingly, this Act shall be administered to protect the constitutional rights of the public, strengthen professional law enforcement, improve transparency and accountability, preserve reliable evidence, and provide fair procedures for all persons affected by misconduct investigations.

END