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The Grassley-Vitter Bill (S.1814) Will Put Critical Law Enforcement and Community Funding at Risk and Hurt Public Safety

Under a new proposal from Sens. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and David Vitter (R-LA), funding for critical law enforcement and economic development activities in cities and counties with [community trust policies](#) is in danger. These [law enforcement-backed](#) policies increase public safety by nurturing trust between law enforcement officials and the communities they police. Nevertheless, they are being targeted by Sens. Grassley and Vitter to punish so-called “sanctuary cities.” This bill seeks to impose one-size-fits-all policies that can harm public safety, rather than letting local officials and law enforcement decide how best to protect their communities.

The Grassley-Vitter bill targets three programs in particular: The Community Oriented Policing Service grants, which help law enforcement agencies hire additional personnel; the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, which reimburses localities for the cost of detaining unauthorized immigrants; and the Community Development Block Grants, which help jurisdictions improve living conditions, housing, and public infrastructure. Taken together, this funding adds up to hundreds of thousands, if not millions of dollars for states across the nation, designed to build stronger communities. The table below lists key states that would be in danger of losing significant funding:

State	Community Oriented Policing Services (FY14) ¹	State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (FY14)	Community Development Block Grants (FY14)	State total
Arizona	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$250,000
California ²	\$1,750,000	\$41,600,000	\$108,300,000	\$151,600,000
Colorado	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$2,900,000	\$4,400,000
Connecticut ²	\$0	\$760,000	\$12,000,000	\$12,800,000
Florida	\$0	\$1,200,000	\$29,700,000	\$31,000,000
Georgia	\$1,400,000	\$197,000	\$8,400,000	\$9,970,000
Iowa	\$0	\$21,000	\$0	\$21,000
Illinois	\$0	\$1,400,000	\$82,000,000	\$83,400,000
Kentucky	\$0	\$42,000	\$10,400,000	\$10,400,000
Louisiana	\$0	\$0	\$10,400,000	\$10,400,000
Maryland	\$0	\$680,000	\$24,200,000	\$24,900,000
Massachusetts	\$0	\$0	\$23,500,000	\$23,500,000
Minnesota	\$0	\$390,000	\$5,300,000	\$5,700,000
Nebraska	\$0	\$290,000	\$0	\$290,000
New Jersey	\$1,900,000	\$670,000	\$13,300,000	\$15,900,000
New Mexico	\$0	\$325,000	0	\$325,000
Nevada	\$0	\$850,000	\$11,000,000	\$11,900,000
New York	\$0	\$11,200,000	\$166,000,000	\$177,400,000
Oregon	\$0	\$660,000	\$4,600,000	\$5,300,000
Pennsylvania	\$0	\$460,000	\$53,600,000	\$54,000,000
Rhode Island ²	\$0	\$570,000	\$4,900,000	\$5,500,000
Wisconsin	\$0	\$70,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,500,000

Note: All figures rounded.

¹ COPS Hiring Program (CHP). Note: Grassley-Vitter only withholds COPS funding for jurisdictions in which the community trust policy emanates from a jurisdiction's law enforcement agency, rather than from policies passed by statute, ordinance, or the like. COPS funding listed in this column refers *only* to jurisdictions' community trust policies that stem from law enforcement.

² State-wide community trust policy. Numbers for these states relate to all of the SCAAP and CDBG funding the state receives, with the exception of COPS funding, as stated in footnote 1.

Methodology: The calculations above are based upon adding up the individual funding that each jurisdiction (cities and counties) purported to have a community trust policy in a given state receives, as well as state-level funding for states that have community trust policies, for each of the three programs listed above. In each of the states listed, one or more localities are reported to have a community trust policy based on research by CLINIC and the Immigrant Legal Resource Center.

Sources: CLINIC, "States and Localities that Limit Compliance with ICE Detainer Requests (Nov 2014), <https://cliniclegal.org/resources/articles-clinic/states-and-localities-limit-compliance-ice-detainer-requests-jan-2014> (last accessed August 2015); Immigrant Legal Resource Center, "Detainer Policies," n.d., <http://www.ilrc.org/resources/detainer-policies> (last accessed August 2015); BJA Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, "2014 COPS Hiring Program Awards," n.d., <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/2014AwardDocs/CHP/CHP-2014-Announcement-9-24-14.pdf> (last accessed August 2015); BJA, "FY14 SCAPP Awards", n.d., <https://www.bja.gov/Funding/14SCAAPawards.pdf> (last accessed August 2015); HUD Exchange, "CPD Allocations and Awards," FY2014, CDBG: Community Development Block Grants, https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/cpd-allocations-awards/?filter_Year=2014&filter_program=2&filter_state=&filter_coc (last accessed August 2015).