To provide block grants to assign armed law enforcement officers to elementary and secondary schools.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCOTT of Florida introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ____________________

A BILL

To provide block grants to assign armed law enforcement officers to elementary and secondary schools.

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 “School Guardian Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. SCHOOL GUARDIAN GRANTS.

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:
“PART PP—SCHOOL GUARDIAN GRANTS

“SEC. 3061. GRANTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AT SCHOOLS.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘K-12 school’ means an elementary school or secondary school, as such terms are defined under section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801); and

“(2) the term ‘local educational agency’ has the meaning given such term under section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

“(b) GRANT AUTHORIZATION.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Attorney General shall make a grant to each State that elects to receive a grant under this section for the cost of assigning armed law enforcement officers to provide security at K-12 schools, which may be used for the cost of pay, training, and equipment for the law enforcement officers.

“(c) AMOUNT.—A grant under this section to a State for a fiscal year shall be in an amount that bears the same ratio to the total amount awarded under this section for the fiscal year as the total number of individuals attending a K-12 school in the State bears to the total number of individuals attending a K-12 school in the United States.
“(d) Administration of Grants.—The use of, and award of subgrants using, amounts received under this section shall be administered by the head of the chief law enforcement agency of a State.

“(e) Subgrants.—

“(1) In general.—The head of the chief law enforcement officer of a State may award a subgrant to a law enforcement agency of a unit of local government in the State for the cost of hiring 1 or more full-time law enforcement officers who will be assigned to provide full-time security at K-12 schools.

“(2) Agreements.—

“(A) In general.—A law enforcement agency of a unit of local government desiring a subgrant under this subsection shall enter into a written agreement with each K-12 school in the jurisdiction of the agency, or with the local educational agency that serves such K-12 school, which shall indicate the number of law enforcement officers the law enforcement agency will hire and assign to each such K-12 school if awarded a subgrant.

“(B) Officers at each school.—The written agreements entered into by a law enforcement agency under subparagraph (A) shall
provide for the hiring of not less than 1 full-
time law enforcement officer who will be as-
signed to provide full-time security at each K-
12 school in the jurisdiction of the law enforce-
ment agency.

“(3) AMOUNT.—The amount of a subgrant
under this subsection to a law enforcement agency
of a unit of local government shall be based on the
number of law enforcement officers the law enforce-
ment agency will hire, as indicated in the written
agreements described in paragraph (2).

“(f) REPORTING.—Each State that receives a grant
under this section for a fiscal year shall submit to the At-
torney General a report regarding the use of the grant
for that fiscal year, which shall include—

“(1) the number of subgrants awarded;
“(2) the amount of each subgrant awarded;
“(3) the number of law enforcement officers
hired to provide security at a K-12 school using
amounts received under the grant; and
“(4) the number of K-12 schools in the State
with 1 or more full-time law enforcement officers for
whom the cost of the pay, training, or equipment for
the law enforcement officers was paid using amounts
received under the grant.
“(g) Failure to Use Amounts.—

“(1) Return.—A State shall return to the Attorney General any amounts received under a grant under this section for a fiscal year which are unobligated as of the day after the last day of the fiscal year.

“(2) Use.—Amounts returned to the Attorney General under paragraph (1) shall be merged with other amounts available to carry out this section and remain available until expended to the Attorney General to make grants under this section, without further appropriation.

“(3) Reporting.—The Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that provides, for each fiscal year, the total amount of funds provided for that fiscal year that are returned under paragraph (1) and the amount of funds provided for that fiscal year that are returned under paragraph (1) by each State.

“(h) Funding.—

“(1) In General.—Effective on the date of enactment of this Act, of the unobligated balances of amounts made available to the Internal Revenue Service under Public Law 117–169 (136 Stat. 1818), $80,000,000,000 shall be transferred, on a
pro rata basis, to the Attorney General to carry out this section.

“(2) AVAILABILITY AND USE.—Amounts transferred under paragraph (1) shall be merged with, and subject to the same terms and conditions as, other amounts available to carry out this section, and shall remain available until expended.

“(3) ANNUAL AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—From amounts transferred under paragraph (1), the Attorney General may make not more than $8,000,000,000 in grants under this section for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2033.”.