H. R. _____

To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant program with respect to 24-7 sobriety programs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ________________

A BILL

To direct the Attorney General to establish a grant program with respect to 24-7 sobriety programs, 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 “Supporting Opportuni-
5 ties to Build Everyday Responsibility Act of 2022” or the
6 “SOBER Act of 2022”.

(Original Signature of Member)
SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM WITH RESPECT TO 24-7 SOBRIETY PROGRAMS.

(a) Establishment.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall establish a grant program (in this Act referred to as the “Program”), within the Office of Justice Programs, to provide funding to 24-7 sobriety programs.

(b) Grant Authority.—In carrying out the Program, the Attorney General may award a grant to an eligible recipient that submits an application for the Program.

(c) Eligible Recipient.—

(1) In General.—Grants awarded under the Program may be awarded to a State, Tribal government, or an agency, office, or a group of such agencies or offices of the State or Tribal government for the purpose of administering an eligible project under subsection (e).

(2) Subgrant.—An eligible recipient awarded a grant under the Program may distribute subgrant of funds awarded under the program to any local government office or agency, or group of offices or agencies, for the purpose of administering an eligible project under subsection (e).

(d) Applications.—To be eligible for a grant under the Program, an eligible recipient shall submit to the Attorney General an application at such time, in such man-
ner, and containing or accompanied by such information as the Attorney General may reasonably require.

(e) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—Grant funds awarded under the Program shall be used to defray administrative costs of an existing 24-7 sobriety program, or costs associated with implementing a new 24-7 sobriety program. Such costs may include—

(1) hiring staff;

(2) purchasing and maintaining equipment;

(3) data collection;

(4) helping a participant meet the financial obligations of being a participant in a 24-7 sobriety program; and

(5) other administrative costs.

(f) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a project assisted with a grant under the Program shall not exceed 100 percent.

(g) REPORT BY ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—Not later than 365 days after disbursement of funds to an eligible recipient under the Program, an eligible recipient shall submit to the Attorney General a report including, for each 24-7 sobriety program funded by the eligible recipient,—

(1) information on eligibility and participation in the 24-7 sobriety program;
(2) data with respect to the consumption of alcohol or other controlled substances by 24-7 sobriety program participants;

(3) data reflecting any criminal charges and convictions among participants during and up to five years after such participant participated in the 24-7 sobriety program;

(4) data regarding programmatic outcomes, including technical violations of the 24-7 sobriety program and sanctions; and

(5) categorized expenses incurred for the administration of a 24-7 sobriety program.

(h) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE EVALUATION AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) EVALUATION.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every two years thereafter, the Director of the National Institute of Justice shall conduct an evaluation to identify policies and procedures used by eligible recipients to reduce crime, recidivism, and incarceration attributed to use of alcohol or controlled substances.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS AND THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION.—Not later than 30 days after completion of the evaluation
under paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall
submit to Congress and the Administrator of the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration a
report including—

(A) the results of the evaluation conducted
under paragraph (1) by the National Institute
of Justice; and

(B) information reported by each eligible
recipient under subsection (g).

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
appropriated to carry out the Program $50,000,000
for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.

(2) NEW PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—At least 15 percent of
funds awarded under the Program, on an an-
nual basis, shall be awarded to an eligible re-
cipient to implement a new 24-7 sobriety pro-
gram.

(B) NEW PROGRAM.—An eligible recipient
awarded funds under subparagraph (A), shall
be ineligible for further grants under this Pro-
gram if no such 24-7 sobriety program has
been implemented two years after the distribu-
tion of Program funds under subparagraph (A).
(3) Training and technical assistance.—

At least 1 percent of annual Program funds shall be awarded to an eligible recipient under the Program for training and technical assistance related to the administration of 24-7 sobriety programs.

(j) 24-7 sobriety program defined.—In this section, the term “24-7 sobriety program” has the meaning given such term in section 405(d)(7)(a) of title 23, United States Code.