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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
2ND SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To require the Department of Justice to procure ballistic-resistant body armor  
manufactured using domestic ballistic fibers.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred  
to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To require the Department of Justice to procure ballistic-resistant body armor manufactured using domestic ballistic fibers.

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 “Ballistic Armor Made  
5 in America Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. RULES RELATED TO PROCUREMENT OF BALLISTIC-**  
2 **RESISTANT BODY ARMOR.**

3 (a) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE OF SOURCE OF MATE-  
4 RIALS.—

5 (1) DISCLOSURE.—Beginning not later than 60  
6 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
7 Director of the National Institute of Justice shall re-  
8 quire any entity, including a company or manufac-  
9 turer, that submits or has submitted ballistic-resist-  
10 ant body armor to the National Institute of Justice’s  
11 Compliance Testing Program to disclose each coun-  
12 try where such armor is manufactured and where  
13 ballistic fibers contained in such armor are grown,  
14 reprocessed, reused, recycled, or produced.

15 (2) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 90 days  
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-  
17 rector of the National Institute of Justice shall—

18 (A) add as a part of the information listed  
19 for each ballistic-resistant body armor model on  
20 the compliant products list, including any bal-  
21 listic-resistant armor model on the compliant  
22 product list prior to the date of the enactment  
23 of this Act, each disclosure required under  
24 paragraph (1); and

25 (B) update, as soon as reasonably possible  
26 and in not more than 30 days, the compliant

1 products list each time ballistic-resistant body  
2 armor model has been certified by the National  
3 Institute of Justice as meeting the latest stand-  
4 ard for such armor.

5 (3) **MADE IN AMERICA.**—No product listed on  
6 the compliant products list that discloses fibers  
7 grown, reprocessed, reused, recycled, or produced  
8 outside of the United States of America may use any  
9 markings, symbols or other language related to the  
10 designation of “Made in America”.

11 (4) **EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.**—The Director  
12 of the National Institute of Justice shall determine  
13 if the requirements under paragraphs (1) through  
14 (3) shall apply to any advanced materials used to re-  
15 place ballistic fibers in the manufacturing of bal-  
16 listic-resistant body armor.

17 (b) **PROHIBITION ON PROCUREMENT FROM OUTSIDE**  
18 **OF THE UNITED STATES.**—

19 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 31 of title 28,  
20 United States Code, is amended by inserting after  
21 section 509B the following:

22 **“§ 509C. Domestic Sourcing Requirement for Depart-**  
23 **ment Procurements**

24 “(a) **PROHIBITION.**—The Attorney General may not  
25 use funds appropriated or otherwise available to the De-

1 partment of Justice for the procurement of ballistic-resist-  
2 ant body armor if such armor is manufactured from or  
3 contains ballistic fibers that are grown, reprocessed, re-  
4 used, recycled, or produced outside of the United States.

5 “(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The prohibition under sub-  
6 section (a) shall not apply if the Attorney General deter-  
7 mines that ballistic-resistant body armor manufactured  
8 from or containing ballistic fibers that are grown, reproc-  
9 essed, reused, recycled, or produced in the United States  
10 cannot be procured as and when needed at United States  
11 market prices or if the ballistic fibers have been found to  
12 be in compliance with the section 4862 of title 10, United  
13 States Code (commonly known as the ‘Berry Amendment’)  
14 and section 604 of the American Recovery and Reinvest-  
15 ment Act of 2009 (6 U.S.C. 453b) (commonly known as  
16 the ‘Kissel Amendment’).

17 “(c) DEFINITION.—In this section:

18 “(1) BALLISTIC-RESISTANT BODY ARMOR.—The  
19 term ‘ballistic-resistant body armor’ means an item  
20 of personal protective equipment, consisting of hard  
21 armor or soft armor, that is intended to protect the  
22 wearer from threats, including ballistic threats, stab-  
23 bing, fragmentation, and blunt impact.

24 “(2) HARD ARMOR.—The term ‘hard armor’  
25 means an item of personal protective equipment that

1 is constructed of rigid materials and is used in the  
2 composition of ballistic-resistant body armor.

3 “(3) SOFT ARMOR.—The term ‘soft armor’  
4 means an item of personal protective equipment con-  
5 structed of pliable or flexible materials and is used  
6 in the composition of ballistic-resistant body  
7 armor.”.

8 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
9 tents for chapter 31 of title 28, United States Code,  
10 is amended by inserting after the item relating to  
11 section 509B the following:

“509C. Domestic Sourcing Requirement for Department Procurements.”.

12 (c) KNOW BEFORE YOU BUY TRAINING.—The Direc-  
13 tor of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers  
14 shall provide an educational training program for any  
15 State or local governmental entity that has applied for or  
16 has received a grant from the Department of Justice to  
17 purchase ballistic-resistant body armor regarding the dis-  
18 closure requirement under subsection (a)(1).

19 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) BALLISTIC-RESISTANT BODY ARMOR.—The  
21 term “ballistic-resistant body armor” means an item  
22 of personal protective equipment, consisting of hard  
23 armor or soft armor, that is intended to protect the  
24 wearer from threats, including ballistic threats, stab-  
25 bing, fragmentation, and blunt impact.

1           (2) COMPLIANT PRODUCTS LIST.—The term  
2           “compliant products list” means the official list of  
3           ballistic-resistant body armor that have been cer-  
4           tified by the National Institute of Justice and is  
5           published as the “Compliant Products List: Ballistic  
6           Resistant Armor” (or a subsequent list) on the  
7           internet website of the Department of Justice.

8           (3) HARD ARMOR.—The term “hard armor”  
9           means an item of personal protective equipment that  
10          is constructed of rigid materials and is used in the  
11          composition of ballistic-resistant body armor.

12          (4) SOFT ARMOR.—The term “soft armor”  
13          means an item of personal protective equipment con-  
14          structed of pliable or flexible materials and is used  
15          in the composition of ballistic-resistant body armor.