

PEOPLE'S RESPONSE ACT

The People's Response Act emphasizes an inclusive, holistic, and health-centered approach to public safety by creating a public safety division within the Department of Human Health and Services — because communities and experts agree that public safety is a matter of public health. It adopts a new approach to public safety that will save lives, and build systems of care that are rooted in improving the well-being of all communities. This approach must be equitable, health-centered, and preventative to stop violence and harm before it occurs while ensuring that every community has what it needs to flourish.

**OFFICERS
WERE CHARGED
WITH A CRIME
IN ONLY
1% OF ALL KILLINGS
BY POLICE**



“ [M]y then son-in-law was beaten by off-duty police in Chicago so badly his ankle and wrist were broken, but there was no recourse. We need accountability for our peace officers. ”
– Orick, MN

“ As a Deaf senior, I am terrified of LAPD. I know I most likely will not hear/comprehend commands, and that is a valid reason for them to shoot/ arrest me. What a horrible situation to be afraid of our police force! We deserve something better. ”
– Elizabeth, CA

IN 2021

**106 PEOPLE
WERE KILLED**

**AFTER POLICE RESPONDED TO REPORTS
OF SOMEONE BEHAVING ERRATICALLY OR
HAVING A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS**



“ We CAN help Americans and help avoid the heartbreak of killings, injuries and abuse happening right now across our country. Pass the People's Response Act now! ”
– Lynda, AZ

**57% OF KILLINGS BY
BY POLICE IN 2021
(606 DEATHS)**

**were traffic stops, police responses to
mental health crises, or
situations where the
person was not reportedly
threatening anyone with a gun¹**



**TRANSGENDER PEOPLE
OF COLOR WERE 6X
MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE
PHYSICAL VIOLENCE FROM THE POLICE
THAN WHITE CISGENDER PEOPLE²**

A 2011 study found³

**LGBTQIA+ YOUTH ARE 53%
MORE LIKELY TO BE STOPPED BY THE POLICE**

**60% MORE LIKELY TO BE
ARRESTED BEFORE THE AGE OF 18**

**90% MORE LIKELY TO HAVE
HAD A JUVENILE CONVICTION**

**41% MORE LIKELY TO HAVE
HAD AN ADULT CONVICTION**



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WHAT IS THE ACT?



Creating a new public safety division within the Department of Health and Human Services to fund and coordinate research, technical assistance, and grant programs related to non-carceral, health-centered investments in public safety



Launching a federal first responders unit that will support states and local governments with emergency health crises;



Research alternative approaches to public safety, including coordination of research and policies that are being implemented across HHS and other agencies to center health-based and non-carceral responses throughout the federal government;



Providing \$7.5 billion in grant funding to state and local governments, as well as community-based organizations, to fully fund public safety and improve crisis response;



Establishing a \$2.5 billion First Responder Hiring Grant to create thousands of jobs and provide funding to state, local, and tribal government, as well as community organizations, to hire emergency first responders such as licensed social workers, mental health counselors, substance use counselors, and peer support specialists, in an effort to improve crisis response and increase non-carceral, health-based approaches to public safety

82% OF AMERICANS
support a greater
role for community
organizations



PROMOTING COMMUNITY-BASED ALTERNATIVES
SUCH AS VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

➔ **50% SAY THEY STRONGLY SUPPORT IT**

“ Our public security system is broken. It must be re-imagined and the People’s Response Act does just that! Public safety is a matter of public health; broaden your minds and see the magnitude of the problem in our country and PASS this Act! ”
– Kathy, MI

“ Pass the people response bill to help black and brown communities. ”
– Essence, NY

96 PERCENT
OF AMERICANS



support changing
management practices
so officer abuses are
punished

➔ **76% SAY THEY STRONGLY SUPPORT THE IDEA**

The victimology of [police sexual violence] is deeply intersectional as police officers typically “target the most vulnerable – namely women of color, transgender and gender-nonconforming people, victims of domestic abuse, and people suspected of engaging in criminalized activity”

[1] <https://policeviolencereport.org/> [2] https://avp.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/ncavp_transhvfactsheet.pdf [3] https://www.americanbar.org/groups/diversity/sexual_orientation/publications/equalizer/2019-july/impact-of-incarceration-and-policing-in-our-community/

**IT'S TIME TO REIMAGINE PUBLIC SAFETY AND OUR OVER
RELIANCE ON POLICING. PASS THE PEOPLE'S RESPONSE ACT!**



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