

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 5227
OFFERED BY MR. NADLER OF NEW YORK**

Strike all that follows after the enacting clause and
insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Technology in Criminal
3 Justice Act of 2019”.

4 SEC. 2. OFFICE OF DIGITAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

5 Part A of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and
6 Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.) is
7 amended by adding at the end the following:

8 “SEC. 110. OFFICE OF DIGITAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

9 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within
10 the Office an Office of Digital Law Enforcement, which
11 shall headed by a Director appointed by the Attorney Gen-
12 eral. In carrying out the functions of the Office of Digital
13 Law Enforcement, the Director shall be subject to the au-
14 thority, direction, and control of the Attorney General.
15 Such authority, direction, and control may be delegated
16 only to the Assistant Attorney General.

17 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Office of Digital
18 Law Enforcement shall be to support Federal, State, and

1 local law enforcement in training, preparing, and sup-
2 porting criminal justice personnel in the conduct of crimi-
3 nal justice activities utilizing digital evidence.

4 “(c) GRANTS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the purpose
6 described under subsection (b), the Director may
7 make grants to eligible recipients.

8 “(2) USES.—Grants awarded under this sub-
9 section shall be used to support the provision of
10 training, education, and technical assistance to
11 criminal justice personnel for the purpose of improv-
12 ing the digital evidence capacity (as such term is de-
13 fined in section 7 of the Technology in Criminal Jus-
14 tice Act of 2019) of law enforcement personnel (as
15 such term is defined in section 7 of the Technology
16 in Criminal Justice Act of 2019).

17 “(3) DISTRIBUTION.—In making grants under
18 this subsection, the Director shall ensure that, to the
19 extent practicable, distribution of such grants en-
20 sures equitable access to relevant training, edu-
21 cation, and technical assistance across geographic
22 areas and across urban and rural areas of varying
23 population and area.

1 “(4) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The Director
2 may award grants under this subsection to the fol-
3 lowing eligible recipients:

4 “(A) The National Domestic Communica-
5 tions Assistance Center (NDCAC).

6 “(B) The National Computer Forensics In-
7 stitute (NCFI).

8 “(C) The Law Enforcement Cyber Center.

9 “(D) The National White Collar Crime
10 Center (NW3C).

11 “(E) The National Cyber-Forensics and
12 Training Alliance (NCF TA).

13 “(F) Regional Computer Forensics Lab-
14 oratories.

15 “(G) Such other entities as the Director
16 deems appropriate.

17 “(d) STANDARDIZATION OF TRAINING CURRICULA.—
18 The Director shall—

19 “(1) on an ongoing basis, review curricula used
20 for training and education programs supported by
21 grants under subsection (c);

22 “(2) identify opportunities for standardization
23 of such curricula; and

1 “(3) in awarding grants under subsection (c),
2 establish requirements or processes, as appropriate,
3 to promote standardization of such curricula.

4 “(e) BEST PRACTICES.—The Director shall—

5 “(1) identify best practices relevant to digital
6 evidence capacity; and

7 “(2) develop mechanisms to inform Federal,
8 State, and local criminal justice personnel of such
9 best practices and promote their adoption.

10 “(f) DATA ON LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCESS TO DIG-
11 ITAL EVIDENCE.—The Director shall—

12 “(1) maintain data relevant to digital evidence
13 capacity, including challenges to accessing and uti-
14 lizing digital evidence and digital forensic laboratory
15 backlogs; and

16 “(2) no later than January 31 of each calendar
17 year, submit to Congress a report summarizing data
18 collected under paragraph (f)(1) of this section dur-
19 ing the preceding calendar year and identifying key
20 trends, gaps, and challenges associated with the
21 data. The report shall be submitted in unclassified
22 format.”.

1 **SEC. 3. REVIEW OF FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL LAW**
2 **ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND ASSISTANCE.**

3 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Attorney General and
4 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly conduct
5 a review of existing United States Government programs
6 that provide training, education, and technical assistance
7 to criminal justice personnel for the purpose of improving
8 digital evidence capacity.

9 (b) ELEMENTS OF REVIEW.—The review required
10 under subsection (a) shall examine the following matters:

11 (1) Identification of existing programs that pro-
12 vide training, education, and technical assistance to
13 criminal justice personnel, and the sources and
14 amounts of U.S. Government funding supporting
15 such programs, for the purpose of improving the
16 digital evidence capacity of law enforcement per-
17 sonnel.

18 (2) Examination of the purposes, organizational
19 models, target audiences, and effectiveness of these
20 programs.

21 (3) Identification of gaps in these programs,
22 and assessment of whether these programs are suffi-
23 cient to meet the needs of Federal, State, and local
24 criminal justice personnel.

25 (4) Recommendations for opportunities, if any,
26 to improve these programs in order to achieve great-

1 er efficiency, coherence, or effectiveness in the deliv-
2 ery of such training, education, and technical assist-
3 ance, including through expansion, consolidation, or
4 reorganization.

5 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Upon completion of the
6 review required in subsection (a), and not later than 360
7 days after the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General
8 and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to
9 Congress a joint report summarizing the conclusions of
10 the review and providing any recommendations to Con-
11 gress for legislative action.

12 **SEC. 4. CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR DIGITAL FORENSICS.**

13 (a) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 360 days after
14 the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, in con-
15 sultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall
16 designate an entity of the Federal Government as the Cen-
17 ter of Excellence for Digital Forensics (hereafter, the
18 “Center”).

19 (b) MISSION.—The Center shall be a clearinghouse
20 for training, technical expertise, and legal assistance relat-
21 ing to accessing digital evidence in support of criminal in-
22 vestigations, including by—

23 (1) serving as a central repository of knowledge
24 and expertise regarding common types of data rel-
25 evant to law enforcement investigations, common

1 technical systems for storing and transmitting such
2 data, formulation of lawful requests for such data,
3 and procedures for submitting such requests;

4 (2) building and maintaining a library of ana-
5 lytic and forensic tools, along with technical exper-
6 tise on the use of such tools, to be available to sup-
7 port Federal, State, and local law enforcement inves-
8 tigations;

9 (3) developing and maintaining technical sup-
10 port tools to facilitate, standardize, and authenticate
11 law enforcement requests for digital evidence;

12 (4) providing training to Federal, State, and
13 local law enforcement organizations on procedures
14 and techniques for the acquisition, exploitation, pres-
15 ervation, and utilization of digital evidence, as well
16 as the protection of privacy and civil liberties in the
17 course of investigations and prosecutions involving
18 digital evidence;

19 (5) producing and maintaining up-to-date train-
20 ing materials and curricula to support training of
21 Federal, State, and local law enforcement organiza-
22 tions relating to digital evidence capacity by other
23 training providers;

24 (6) coordinating with international, Federal,
25 and State training programs, as well as relevant

1 non-governmental stakeholders, to leverage and co-
2 ordinate existing resources for training, technical as-
3 sistance tools, and informative materials on proce-
4 dures and techniques relating to digital evidence ca-
5 pacity; and

6 (7) providing a hotline available for law enforce-
7 ment officials seeking advice about or assistance re-
8 lating to digital evidence capacity.

9 (c) COORDINATION WITH EXISTING TRAINING PRO-
10 VIDERS.—The designation required by subsection (a) shall
11 be informed by the results of the review conducted under
12 section 3.

13 (d) TERMINATION OR MODIFICATION OF DESIGNA-
14 TION.—The Attorney General may terminate or modify
15 the designation under subsection (a) if the Attorney Gen-
16 eral, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
17 rity, determines that the Center is no longer capable of
18 achieving the missions specified in subsection (b) and des-
19 ignates a separate entity of the Federal Government to
20 serve as the Center. Not later than 60 days before the
21 effective date of such a termination, the Secretary shall
22 provide written notice to Congress, including the rationale
23 for such termination.

1 **SEC. 5. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LAW ENFORCEMENT TECH-**
2 **NOLOGY SUPPORT TO STATE AND LOCAL**
3 **LAW ENFORCEMENT.**

4 (a) PROGRAM.—The Attorney General and the Sec-
5 retary of Homeland Security shall jointly establish a Law
6 Enforcement Technology Support to State and Local Law
7 Enforcement program under the direction of the Director
8 of the Office of Digital Law Enforcement.

9 (b) DEVELOPMENT.—Under the program established
10 in subsection (a), the Attorney General and the Secretary
11 shall jointly develop guidelines and processes, as appro-
12 priate, to authorize the use of funds made available to
13 grantees under the following programs for purposes of ac-
14 quiring technology to improve the digital evidence capacity
15 of criminal justice personnel:

16 (1) The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice As-
17 sistance Grant program.

18 (2) The Urban Area Security Initiative.

19 (3) The State Homeland Security Grant Pro-
20 gram.

21 (c) DISSEMINATION OF ACQUISITION GUIDANCE.—
22 Through the program established in subsection (a), the
23 Attorney General and the Secretary shall develop guidance
24 on acquisition of law enforcement technologies that sup-
25 port digital evidence capacity, and regularly disseminate
26 such guidance to State and local law enforcement organi-

1 zations. Such guidance shall identify and encourage adop-
2 tion of effective law enforcement technologies useful across
3 different technological platforms and formats.

4 (d) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—Subject to
5 the availability of resources, the Attorney General and the
6 Secretary shall, under the program established in sub-
7 section (a), enter into partnerships with public or private
8 entities to improve the access of Federal, State, and local
9 law enforcement personnel to law enforcement tech-
10 nologies that support digital evidence capacity. Such part-
11 nerships may—

12 (1) develop collaborative approaches to devel-
13 oping new investigative tools;

14 (2) promote the exchange of technical experts
15 between the technology and law enforcement commu-
16 nities;

17 (3) build public access data sets that may aid
18 law enforcement investigations;

19 (4) exchange information on technical ap-
20 proaches relating to digital evidence capacity, con-
21 sistent with relevant laws and policies;

22 (5) develop training modules and content to
23 support training of criminal justice personnel on rel-
24 evant topics relating to digital evidence capacity; and

1 (6) address other such matters as the Attorney
2 General and the Secretary deem appropriate.

3 **SEC. 6. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TECHNOLOGY POLICY**
4 **ADVISORY BOARD.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a De-
6 partment of Justice Technology Policy Advisory Board
7 (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Board”),
8 which shall be composed of 11 members appointed in ac-
9 cordance with subsection (c) and shall conduct its business
10 in accordance with this chapter.

11 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Board shall be
12 to—

13 (1) foster sustained dialogue between the tech-
14 nology and law enforcement communities on policy
15 issues of mutual concern; and

16 (2) advise the Attorney General on—

17 (A) relevant developments in technologies
18 relating to law enforcement, forensics, commu-
19 nications, and cybersecurity, and their implica-
20 tions for the Department of Justice;

21 (B) strategies and technical approaches for
22 improving digital evidence capacity;

23 (C) strategies and technical approaches for
24 improving law enforcement activities relating to

1 the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of
2 cyber crime; and

3 (D) such other matters as requested by the
4 Attorney General.

5 (c) MEMBERS.—

6 (1) MEMBERS.—The members of the Board
7 shall be senior non-government leaders with knowl-
8 edge or expertise, whether by experience or training,
9 in the fields of technology, communications, com-
10 puter science, cybersecurity, digital forensics, law en-
11 forcement, relevant laws relating to digital searches
12 and the use of digital evidence, and related fields,
13 who shall be appointed by the Attorney General.

14 (2) TERM.—The term of a Board member shall
15 be 4 years.

16 (3) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the member-
17 ship of the Board shall not affect the powers of the
18 Board and shall be filled in the same manner as the
19 original appointment.

20 (4) CHAIRMAN.—The Members of the Board
21 shall elect one member to serve as Chairman of the
22 Board.

23 (d) COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES.—

1 (1) COMPENSATION.—A Member of the Board
2 shall receive no compensation for the member’s serv-
3 ices as such.

4 (2) EXPENSES.—A member of the Board shall
5 be allowed necessary travel expenses (or in the alter-
6 native, mileage for use of a privately owned vehicle
7 and a per diem in lieu of subsistence not to exceed
8 the rate and amount prescribed in sections 5702 and
9 5704 of title 5, United States Code), and other nec-
10 essary expenses incurred by the member in the per-
11 formance of duties vested in the Panel, without re-
12 gard to the provisions of subchapter I of chapter 57
13 of title 5, United States Code, the Standardized
14 Government Travel Regulations, or section 5731 of
15 title 5, United States Code.

16 (e) SUPPORT.—The Attorney General shall provide
17 support for the performance of the Board’s functions and
18 shall ensure compliance with the requirements of the Fed-
19 eral Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appen-
20 dix), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5
21 U.S.C. 552b), governing Federal statutes and regulations,
22 and Department of Justice policies and procedures.

23 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

24 For purposes of this Act:

1 (1) DIGITAL EVIDENCE CAPACITY.—The term
2 “digital evidence capacity” shall include, in inves-
3 tigations and prosecutions involving digital evidence,
4 the capacity, or activities supporting the capacity,
5 to—

6 (A) acquire digital evidence in accordance
7 with current surveillance, civil rights, and crimi-
8 nal justice laws;

9 (B) ensure digital evidence acquisition ac-
10 tivities—

11 (i) minimize the acquisition of digital
12 information not necessary to an investiga-
13 tion, including the acquisition of informa-
14 tion pertaining to non-targeted persons;

15 (ii) are conducted in accordance with
16 proper legal processes such as warrants,
17 court orders, and notice when required;
18 and

19 (iii) favor less intrusive investigative
20 techniques when they would suffice;

21 (C) handle and preserve digital evidence
22 appropriately, including by ensuring—

23 (i) the integrity of the evidentiary
24 chain of custody;

1 (ii) preventing inadvertent corruption
2 or destruction of the evidence; and

3 (iii) promoting the prompt return of
4 seized digital devices and the prompt re-
5 turn or destruction of seized digital infor-
6 mation not used in prosecution of the
7 crime for which it was acquired;

8 (D) extract, analyze, and exploit digital
9 evidence;

10 (E) ensure the appropriate use of digital
11 evidence, including by limiting the repurposing
12 of seized digital information;

13 (F) use digital evidence in criminal legal
14 proceedings; and

15 (G) ensure appropriate protections relating
16 to privacy and security are applied to activities
17 involving the acquisition, preservation, analysis
18 and exploitation, and use of digital information.

19 (2) CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL.—The term
20 “criminal justice personnel” shall mean employees of
21 any unit of Federal, State, or local government who
22 have responsibilities pertaining to criminal justice
23 (as such term is defined in section 901 of the Omni-

- 1 bus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34
- 2 U.S.C. 10251)).

