

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 601

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 17, 1997

Ms. SNOWE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

---

## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking a child hostage in order to evade arrest.

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. CHILD HOSTAGE-TAKING TO EVADE ARREST**  
4 **OR OBSTRUCT JUSTICE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 18, United  
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-  
7 ing new section:

8 **“§ 1205. Child hostage-taking to evade arrest or ob-**  
9 **struct justice**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever uses force or threatens  
11 to use force against any officer or agency of the Federal

1 Government, and seizes or detains, or continues to detain,  
2 a child in order to—

3 “(1) obstruct, resist, or oppose any officer of  
4 the United States, or other person duly authorized,  
5 in serving, or attempting to serve or execute, any  
6 legal or judicial writ, process, or warrant of any  
7 court of the United States; or

8 “(2) compel any department or agency of the  
9 Federal Government to do or to abstain from doing  
10 any act;

11 or attempts to do so, shall be punished in accordance with  
12 subsection (b).

13 “(b) SENTENCING.—Any person who violates sub-  
14 section (a)—

15 “(1) shall be imprisoned not less than 10 years  
16 and not more than 25 years;

17 “(2) if injury results to the child as a result of  
18 the violation, shall be imprisoned not less than 20  
19 years and not more than 35 years; and

20 “(3) if death results to the child as a result of  
21 the violation, shall be imprisoned for life.

22 “(c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the  
23 term ‘child’ means an individual who is less than 18 years  
24 of age.”.

1           (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
2 for chapter 55 of title 18, United States Code, is amended  
3 by adding at the end the following new item:

“1205. Child hostage-taking to evade arrest or obstruct justice.”.

