

thief to buy two cars and a mobile home. Under her name, the thief racked up \$60,000 in fraudulent charges. Yet, there was no federal law to protect her.

Or, ask the thousands of consumers across the country whose names, Social Security numbers, and personal credit information are pilfered every day. This "crime that isn't a crime" cost consumers \$745 million in 1997, according to a recent GAO report I requested.

While Jessica Grant and thousands of individuals have indeed been violated, current federal law provides protections only for lenders and credit card companies.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this legislation. Today, there is no standard definition of identity theft. There are no fines. No prison penalties. No protections for people like Jessica Grant. In short, ID theft is not a crime.

Passage of this legislation addresses two critical aspects of identity theft. First the bill would authorize the FTC to acknowledge and log reports of this new—and rapidly expanding—category of crime. At last, we will learn about the real impact identity theft.

Second, the bill clearly defines ID theft. People like Jessica Grant and prosecutors across the country can pursue these thieves and lock 'em up.

While HR 4151 is a positive step there is much more work to be done to thwart this growth industry in crime.

Under my bill, HR 1813, the Personal Information Privacy Act, the sale or purchase of a person's personal credit information without the express written consent of the owner would be explicitly prohibited. My bill, which I will re-introduce in the 106th Congress, also prohibits the use of Social Security numbers as a condition of doing business.

Mr. Speaker, with these two bills we at long last will have the one-two punch needed to strike back at identity thieves.

Mr. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WILSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. McCOLLUM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4151, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CRIME VICTIMS WITH DISABILITIES AWARENESS ACT

Mr. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1976) to increase public awareness of the plight of victims of crime with developmental disabilities, to collect data to measure the magnitude of the problem, and to develop strategies to address the safety and justice needs of victims of crime with developmental disabilities.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1976

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Crime Victims With Disabilities Awareness Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) although research conducted abroad demonstrates that individuals with developmental disabilities are at a 4 to 10 times higher risk of becoming crime victims than those without disabilities, there have been no significant studies on this subject conducted in the United States;

(2) in fact, the National Crime Victim's Survey, conducted annually by the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the Department of Justice, does not specifically collect data relating to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities;

(3) studies in Canada, Australia, and Great Britain consistently show that victims with developmental disabilities suffer repeated victimization because so few of the crimes against them are reported, and even when they are, there is sometimes a reluctance by police, prosecutors, and judges to rely on the testimony of a disabled individual, making individuals with developmental disabilities a target for criminal predators;

(4) research in the United States needs to be done to—

(A) understand the nature and extent of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities;

(B) describe the manner in which the justice system responds to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

(C) identify programs, policies, or laws that hold promises for making the justice system more responsive to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

(5) the National Academy of Science Committee on Law and Justice of the National Research Council is a premier research institution with unique experience in developing seminal, multidisciplinary studies to establish a strong research base from which to make public policy.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to increase public awareness of the plight of victims of crime who are individuals with developmental disabilities;

(2) to collect data to measure the extent of the problem of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

(3) to develop a basis to find new strategies to address the safety and justice needs of victims of crime who are individuals with developmental disabilities.

SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY.

In this Act, the term "developmental disability" has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6001).

SEC. 4. STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall conduct a study to increase knowledge and information about crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities that will be useful in developing new strategies to reduce the incidence of crimes against those individuals.

(b) ISSUES ADDRESSED.—The study conducted under this section shall address such issues as—

(1) the nature and extent of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities;

(2) the risk factors associated with victimization of individuals with developmental disabilities;

(3) the manner in which the justice system responds to crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

(4) the means by which States may establish and maintain a centralized computer database on the incidence of crimes against individuals with disabilities within a State.

(c) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—In carrying out this section, the Attorney General shall consider contracting with the Committee on Law and Justice of the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences to provide research for the study conducted under this section.

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report describing the results of the study conducted under this section.

SEC. 5. NATIONAL CRIME VICTIM'S SURVEY.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, as part of each National Crime Victim's Survey, the Attorney General shall include statistics relating to—

(1) the nature of crimes against individuals with developmental disabilities; and

(2) the specific characteristics of the victims of those crimes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. McCOLLUM) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. McCOLLUM).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, S. 1976, the Crime Victims with Disabilities Awareness Act, is an effort to increase public awareness of the plight of crime victims who suffer from developmental disabilities. Sponsored by Senator DEWINE and passed by the other body on July 13, 1998, the bill directs the Attorney General, in conjunction with the National Research Council, to develop a plan to increase our understanding and help prevent crimes against vulnerable segments of our society. The Attorney General would be required to gather and report statistics on crimes against the physically and mentally disabled as part of the National Crime Victims Survey.

Madam Speaker, criminals are opportunists. We have long recognized they target the most vulnerable members of society for crime and exploitation and we have responded by successfully heightening awareness of crimes against women, children, and the elderly. This subcommittee has considered numerous pieces of legislation to address crimes against children and the elderly, but we have not considered the extent and the nature of crimes against disabled individuals.

I was shocked to find out that we know very little about crimes against the disabled. There is an estimated 52 million Americans with disabilities and we have every indication that crimes against this population are serious, yet no significant studies have

been conducted in the United States. In fact, the Bureau of Justice Statistics in their annual National Crime Victims Survey does not specifically collect data about crimes against persons with developmental disabilities.

Research in foreign countries has found that persons with developmental disabilities are at a 4 to 10 times higher risk of becoming crime victims than those without disabilities. Studies in Canada, Australia and Great Britain consistently show that crime victims with developmental disabilities suffer repeated victimization because so few of the crimes against them are reported. Unfortunately, even when crimes against victims with disabilities are reported, there sometimes is a reluctance by justice officials to rely solely on the testimony of a disabled person, further making these victims a target for criminal predators.

S. 1976 seeks to promote research to, (1) understand the nature and extent of crimes against persons with developmental disabilities; (2) assess how the law enforcement and justice systems currently respond to crimes against the developmentally disabled; and (3) identify programs, policies, or laws that hold promise for making our law enforcement and justice systems more responsive to crimes against persons with developmental disabilities.

I am hopeful that the research in this legislation will have broad positive national policy implications. Greater knowledge about victims with developmental disabilities will help service providers target programs more effectively. Victims and their families will have a better understanding of crime risks. Justice and social service policy makers will have a greater understanding of how to improve investigative and prosecutorial strategies and how to use victims' testimony in conjunction with other case evidence.

Clearly, what this legislation is trying to do is to raise considerably the national profile of this issue among research agencies and the academic community and to continue to define and develop solutions to the problem. It is an important proposal and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise to support this legislation which was introduced by Senator LEAHY and Senator DEWINE and passed by the Senate by unanimous consent.

Interestingly enough, as the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM), my colleague and chairman has indicated, research has already been done on this issue in foreign countries and it has found that persons with developmental disabilities are at a 4 to 10 times higher risk of becoming crime victims than those without disabilities. Interestingly enough, we have not done similar research here in the United States.

The legislation is designed to achieve the three objectives: Increasing public awareness of the plight of crime victims with developmental disabilities; to start collecting data to measure the extent and nature of the problem; and, to develop strategies to address the safety and justice of these victims.

Many times these victims cannot explain or express the circumstances around their victimization. Research in the United States really needs to be done to understand the nature and extent of crimes against persons with developmental disabilities, again, to show how the law enforcement and justice systems currently respond to such crimes and to identify programs and policies or laws that hold promise for making our law enforcement and justice systems more responsive to crimes against persons with developmental disabilities.

Frankly, Madam Speaker, we need to reach out to these individuals, so that they can aggressively be able to protect themselves, we can provide them with comfort and training, and we can stave off those who would victimize these victims because of their disabilities.

The legislation directs the Attorney General to enter into contracts to develop a research agenda to increase the understanding and control of crime against persons with developmental disabilities.

In speaking to one of my colleagues here on the floor, they found this bill particularly interesting in light of the fact that people with disabilities, someone that they are very familiar with, would be subject to attack by those who thought they were easy prey. This is an important issue because there are more and more people with developmental disabilities in this Nation. This because of poor prenatal nutrition and care, serious accidents, and other tragedies that occur throughout one's life.

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There are also increases in child abuse, and there is much substance abuse during pregnancy. So we are finding more and more Americans who are capable of surviving and supporting themselves, but they are developmentally disabled and become subject to victimization.

This is a strong bipartisan bill and I urge its adoption.

I rise in support of this legislation introduced by my good friend Mr. TRAFICANT which ensures that Federal funds for the Cops on the Beat program are used in a manner that produces a net gain in the number of law enforcement officers who perform non-administrative safety services.

I was heavily involved in the enactment of the initial cops on the beat program, and I can assure the Members that the overriding goal was to hire and retain as many neighborhood policeman as possible, not to use the money for excessive administrative or overhead costs.

Identical legislation has been enacted in each of the last several Congresses through

the appropriations process, but has become entangled in other issues.

This is good legislation that will help our communities fight crime, and I urge a yes vote.

Madam Speaker, I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. WILSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1976.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENSURING FEDERAL FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE TO HIRE OR REHIRE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ARE USED IN MANNER THAT PRODUCES NET GAIN OF NUMBER OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO PERFORM NON-ADMINISTRATIVE PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Madame Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 804) to amend part Q of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to ensure that Federal funds made available to hire or rehire law enforcement officers are used in a manner that produces a net gain of the number of law enforcement officers who perform nonadministrative public safety services.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 804

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NET GAIN OF OFFICERS.

Section 1704 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) NET GAIN OF OFFICERS.—Notwithstanding any other provision under this part, funding provided under this part for hiring or rehiring a career law enforcement officer shall be used by an entity described in section 1701(a) to ensure that such entity achieves a net gain in the number of law enforcement officers who perform nonadministrative public safety service."

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendment made by section 1 shall apply to all applications and grant renewal requests made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MCCOLLUM).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within