

Union Calendar No. 120

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 923

[Report No. 110-200]

To establish an Unsolved Crimes Section in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and an Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Investigative Office in the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 8, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. McCARTHY of New York, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. WATT, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. WATERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CLAY, Ms. LEE, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. WATSON, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. WYNN, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RUSH, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. CARSON, Mr. HONDA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. GUTIERREZ, and Ms. CASTOR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JUNE 19, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. OLVER, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. WEINER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. FARR, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. FILNER, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. WEXLER,

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, and Mr. SHERMAN

JUNE 19, 2007

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 8, 2007]

A BILL

To establish an Unsolved Crimes Section in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and an Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Investigative Office in the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other purposes.

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 “Emmett Till Unsolved
5 Civil Rights Crime Act of 2007”.*

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 *It is the sense of Congress that all authorities with ju-
8 risdiction, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation
9 and other entities within the Department of Justice,
10 should—*

11 *(1) expeditiously investigate unsolved civil rights
12 murders, due to the amount of time that has passed
13 since the murders and the age of potential witnesses;
14 and*

4 SEC. 3. DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE CRIMINAL SECTION OF THE
5 CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION.

6 (a) *IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall des-*
7 *ignate a Deputy Chief in the Criminal Section of the Civil*
8 *Rights Division of the Department of Justice.*

9 (b) *RESPONSIBILITY.*—

19 (c) *STUDY AND REPORT.*—

5 (B) the number of new cases opened pursu-
6 ant to this Act since the previous year's study;

20 (E) the number of cases within the study
21 period that were closed without Federal prosecu-
22 tion, the case names of unsealed Federal cases,
23 the dates the cases were closed, and the relevant
24 federal statutes;

4 (G) the applications submitted for grants
5 under section 5, the award of such grants, and
6 the purposes for which the grant amount were
7 expended.

13 SEC. 4. SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT IN THE CIVIL
14 RIGHTS UNIT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF
15 INVESTIGATION.

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall des-*
17 *ignate a Supervisory Special Agent in the Civil Rights*
18 *Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Depart-*
19 *ment of Justice.*

20 (b) *RESPONSIBILITY.—*

5 SEC. 5. GRANTS TO STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

6 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Attorney General may award
7 grants to State or local law enforcement agencies for ex-
8 penses associated with the investigation and prosecution by
9 them of criminal offenses, involving civil rights, that oc-
10 curred not later than December 31, 1969, and resulted in
11 a death.

12 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are
13 authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000 for each of the
14 fiscal years 2008 through 2017 to carry out this section.

15 SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

16 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—There are authorized to be appro-
17 priated, in addition to any other amounts otherwise author-
18 ized to be appropriated for this purpose, to the Attorney
19 General \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008
20 through 2017 for the purpose of investigating and pros-
21 ecuting violations of criminal civil rights statutes that oc-
22 curred not later than December 31, 1969, and resulted in
23 a death. These funds shall be allocated by the Attorney Gen-
24 eral to the Deputy Chief of the Criminal Section of the Civil
25 Rights Division and the Supervisory Special Agent of the

1 *Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation*
2 *in order to advance the purposes set forth in this Act.*

3 (b) *COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE OF THE DEPART-*
4 *MENT OF JUSTICE.*—*In addition to any amounts author-*
5 *ized to be appropriated under title XI of the Civil Rights*
6 *Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000h et seq.), there are authorized*
7 *to be appropriated to the Community Relations Service of*
8 *the Department of Justice \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2008*
9 *and each subsequent fiscal year, to enable the Service (in*
10 *carrying out the functions described in title X of such Act*
11 *(42 U.S.C. 2000g et seq.) to provide technical assistance*
12 *by bringing together law enforcement agencies and commu-*
13 *nities in the investigation of violations of criminal civil*
14 *rights statutes, in cases described in section 4(b).*

15 **SEC. 7. DEFINITION OF “CRIMINAL CIVIL RIGHTS STAT-**
16 **UTES”.**

17 *In this Act, the term “criminal civil rights statutes”*
18 *means—*

19 (1) *section 241 of title 18, United States Code*
20 *(relating to conspiracy against rights);*
21 (2) *section 242 of title 18, United States Code*
22 *(relating to deprivation of rights under color of law);*
23 (3) *section 245 of title 18, United States Code*
24 *(relating to federally protected activities);*

6 (6) any other Federal law that—

12 SEC. 8. SUNSET.

13 *Sections 2 through 6 of this Act shall cease to have*
14 *effect at the end of fiscal year 2017.*

15 SEC. 9. AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.

16 *Title XXXVII of the Crime Control Act of 1990 (42*
17 *U.S.C. 5779 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the*
18 *following:*

19 "SEC. 3703. AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.

20 “(a) *IN GENERAL.*—An Inspector General appointed
21 under section 3 or 8G of the Inspector General Act of 1978
22 (5 U.S.C. App.) may authorize staff to assist the National
23 Center for Missing and Exploited Children—

1 “(1) by conducting reviews of inactive case files
2 to develop recommendations for further investigations;
3 and
4 “(2) by engaging in similar activities.

5 “(b) *LIMITATIONS.*—

6 “(1) *PRIORITY.*—An Inspector General may not
7 permit staff to engage in activities described in sub-
8 section (a) if such activities will interfere with the
9 duties of the Inspector General under the Inspector
10 General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

11 “(2) *FUNDING.*—No additional funds are author-
12 ized to be appropriated to carry out this section.”.

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