the remainder of her duty on another ship.

As if the horrifying assault and subsequent mistreatment of Petty Officer De Roche is not heartbreaking enough, her predators didn’t get the punishment they deserved, in fact, something very different occurred instead of the predators being punished, her command decided to handle the rapes with so-called nonjudicial punishments. The punishment required the rapists to admit their crimes—so they admitted them. They got 6 months docked pay and a reduced rank for only one of the rapists. Both of the rapists were permitted to remain on active duty. When Command informed Petty Officer De Roche of the outcome, they also advised her to “accept the situation” and refrain from speaking out against the lack of punishment or accountability.

Petty Officer De Roche’s story, like many others, highlights a system that is unimaginable to so many of us and a system that is so clearly broken. In the military, a base commander has complete authority and discretion over how a degrading and violent assault under his command is handled. The commander can issue virtually any punishment for any reason. If they don’t want a black mark on their record or their friends were accused or if they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist.

My bill, H.R. 3435, the Sexual Assault Training Oversight and Prevention Act, the STOP Act, takes this issue just a simple slap on the wrist. If they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist. If they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist. If they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist. If they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist. If they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist. If they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist. If they simply don’t know the correct way of dealing with a case, they can issue just a simple slap on the wrist. 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