

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3894

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the prompt notification of State Child Protective Services by military and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense required by law to report suspected instances of child abuse and neglect.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Ms. GABBARD (for herself and Mr. TAKAI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to require the prompt notification of State Child Protective Services by military and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense required by law to report suspected instances of child abuse and neglect.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. EXPEDITED REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND**
2 **NEGLECT TO STATE CHILD PROTECTIVE**
3 **SERVICES.**

4 (a) REPORTING BY MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PER-
5 SONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—Section
6 1787 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

7 (1) by redesignating subsections (a) and (b) as
8 subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

9 (2) by inserting before subsection (c), as so re-
10 designated, the following new subsections:

11 “(a) REPORTING BY MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PER-
12 SONNEL.—A member of the armed forces, civilian em-
13 ployee of the Department of Defense, or contractor em-
14 ployee working on a military installation who is mandated
15 by Federal regulation or State law to report known or sus-
16 pected instances of child abuse and neglect shall provide
17 the report directly to State Child Protective Services or
18 another appropriate State agency in addition to the mem-
19 ber’s or employee’s chain of command or any designated
20 Department point of contact.

21 “(b) TRAINING FOR MANDATED REPORTERS.—The
22 Secretary of Defense shall ensure that individuals referred
23 to in subsection (a) who are mandated by State law to
24 report known or suspected instances of child abuse and
25 neglect receive appropriate training, in accordance with
26 State guidelines, intended to improve their—

1 “(1) ability to recognize evidence of child abuse
2 and neglect; and

3 “(2) understanding of the mandatory reporting
4 requirements imposed by law.”.

5 (b) CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—
6 Section 1787 of title 10, United States Code, is further
7 amended—

8 (1) in subsection (c), as redesignated by sub-
9 section (a)(1), by striking “IN GENERAL.—” and in-
10 serting “REPORTING BY STATES.—”; and

11 (2) in subsection (d), as redesignated by sub-
12 section (a)(1)—

13 (A) by striking “(d) DEFINITION.—In this
14 section, the term” and inserting the following:

15 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16 “(1) The term”; and

17 (B) by adding at the end the following new
18 paragraph:

19 “(2) The term ‘State’ includes the District of
20 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the
21 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,
22 Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the
23 Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the
24 Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.”.

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